THE

Board of Trade Journal.

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In a notice on p. 624 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

All applications respecting subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal," or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London, to Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Copper Fire-box Plates.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Copper fire-box plates.

The conditions of contract may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W., and tenders are to be delivered at that Office by two p.m. on Tuesday, the 4th October, 1904, after which time no tender will be received.

Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

India rubber Fittings: Materials for Steel Foundry.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

1. Indiarubber fittings,
2. Materials for steel foundry,

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for india rubber fittings," or as the case may be, not later than 12 noon on Wednesday, the 5th October.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—

Soft soap; railway tickets, &c.; brass sheets; pig-iron.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, London, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Soft Soap," or as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 6th October.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Cotton Rugs in Calcutta.

The Belgian Consul at Calcutta, in a recent report, states that there is a large trade in cotton rugs at Calcutta, the supply coming mainly from Germany, Holland, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

Rugs, four feet wide and eight feet long, are most in demand; red is the favourite colour, though white and grey rugs are also sought after. There is great variety in the borders of the grey and white rugs, but the red rugs are invariably edged with black.

The trade in rugs, as in most textiles, depends to a great extent on "marks." Merchants desirous of establishing a connection in British India should see that all their goods have their own special mark, which ought never to be altered. The Indian retail trader, when forwarding his order to the wholesale house, asks for a number of bales bearing a certain mark, which he knows well and appreciates. When the size and weight of an article have been established by custom, they should never vary, otherwise the purchaser raises innumerable difficulties. Red rugs, which are sold at an average price of one rupee, generally weigh two pounds, occasionally a trifle more.

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry is made by a London firm for names of Canadian manufacturers of oak panelling and similar goods.

A firm of butter importers, who find there is an opening for Canadian produce in their locality, desire to be placed in communication with some of the best and largest butter producing dairies in Canada, with a view to a regular consignment business during the season.

A large firm of fruit and produce brokers have asked to be placed in communication with apple growers in Canada seeking to export fruit for the English market.

Canadian Enquiries.—An eastern Canadian firm have asked to be placed in communication with United Kingdom exporters of ebony brushes, mirrors, rubber combs, sponges, &c., and with large jobbers dealing in such goods as would be sold in drug stores.

A firm of manufacturers' agents in Ontario are seeking to establish connections with some English firms who require purchasing agents in Canada for raw and manufactured materials. They are also prepared to act as agents in the Dominion for English-made goods.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

EGYPT.

Petroleum.

An announcement appears in the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 17th September, to the effect that the Administration of Ports and Lighthouses invites tenders for the supply of 2,000 cases of petroleum, flashing point not less than 1250 F. (*sic*). Delivery is to be made on the barge of the Administration from vessel in the Port of Alexandria, not later than 1st December, 1904.

Tenders must be written on stamped paper of 30 millièmes, put in double envelopes, the outer bearing the address of the Controller General of Ports and Lighthouses, Alexandria, and the inner bearing the following inscription: "Offer for the supply of 2,000 cases of petroleum."

Tenders will be received up to 12 noon on the 1st November, 1904, and any tender received after the above date and hour will not be taken into consideration.

Persons wishing to tender must send with their tenders a case as sample of the petroleum they offer.

The price of petroleum accepted will be paid in January, 1905.

The Controller-General does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any offer.

Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN.

Coal.

A notice appears in the supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of 20th September calling for tenders for the supply to the Lund Hospital and Asylum of 4,000 metric tons of first quality double-screened South Yorkshire coal. Tenders must be sent in to the "Kungl. Direktionen för Lunds Hospital och asyl," Lund, before midday on 18th October.

GERMANY.

Architectural Designs.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that the town of Bremen has opened an international competition for the most artistic architectural designs for a block of houses to be erected in the Kaiser Wilhelmsplatz, facing the Town Hall. Prizes of 5,000 marks (about 250*l.*), 3,000 marks (about 150*l.*), and 2,000 marks (about 100*l.*) are offered for the best designs.

BELGIUM.

Electric Cranes.

A despatch has been received at the Board of Trade, from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp, reporting that the Municipality of Ghent invite tenders for the construction of ten electric cranes at that port in accordance with the specification, a copy of which may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

An initial deposit of 2,000 fr. (80*l.*) is required to qualify each tender, and for the tender accepted, a further deposit of 18,000 fr. (720*l.*).

Tenders, in registered envelopes, addressed "Au Collège Echevinal de la Ville de Gand" must be posted not later than the 17th October, 1904. The adjudication will take place on the 19th October.

Athletic Outfits.

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp, in his report on the trade of Belgium for last year, states that all over the country, and in Antwerp in particular, there is a difficulty in obtaining, at a reasonable price, articles in connection with the furnishing of the necessary outfits for athletic sports, *e.g.*, tennis, football, rowing, cricket and golf, &c. Belgium is a most enthusiastic sporting country, and there are flourishing athletic clubs of all descriptions in a most every district, which are entirely dependent on foreign sources for the supply of materials, since there are practically no local manufacturers on a large scale of any articles of this kind.

Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

Mining Implements.

The equipment of the mines in the Liége district, and generally over the whole of Belgium, is very backward, many modern implements for the saving of labour which are in general use in other countries being as yet unknown in the Belgian mines. There are, therefore, many openings for the supply of mining apparatus of all kinds. The vast Limbourg coal fields are shortly to be opened up, and will doubtless be installed with the most recent machinery for extraction, pumping, and ventilation, and there will of necessity be a large demand for shaft-sinking and other appliances.

Tea.

Since the repealing a few years ago of the Customs duty on tea imported into Belgium, there has been a much more considerable demand for that article than was previously the case, and there is now a good opportunity for Ceylon and India to increase their exports of tea to that country.

Tea is now a popular article of consumption with all classes over the whole of Belgium, and the fact that it is admitted into the country absolutely free from any tax tends to increase the demand for it from year to year.

The following figures are of interest :—

—	1902.	1903.
	Tons.	Tons.
Total imports of tea into Belgium	876	1,003
Of which the United Kingdom and British Colonies supplied	338	310
And China	450	479
Belgian consumption was	*263*	*697*
(Large re-exports made to Russia and the Netherlands)		

NOTE.—See also pp. 586-7.

Locomotives for Mines.

The British Vice-Consul at Liége reports that there are many openings for British trade, which should be taken advantage of by British manufacturers in connection with the approaching exhibition at that town. For example, there are now about 800 steam engines running in connection with the 70 or more mines in Belgium. Many of these are old types, and there should be an opening for more economical engines.

Mechanical Substitutes for Explosives : Machine and Pneumatic Tools.

Inventors and manufacturers of mechanical substitutes for explosives in mines will find at the exhibition a good means of making their specialities known. There is also an opening for machine tools and other appliances in connection with the gunsmith's trade. Pneumatic tools are finding favour in Belgium, and might be worth exhibiting.

Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

Boots and Shoes, &c.

The exhibition will also be worth the attention of boot and shoemakers, especially if they will go a little out of their way to make special shapes for the Continental market. American boots find a ready sale, and there is no reason why British boots should not do so also. Manufacturers of jams, beers, whiskies and liqueurs may also find the exhibition a profitable means of advertising their goods. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,275.)

Heating Apparatus.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of the 17th September states that tenders are invited for the installation of steam heating apparatus in the basements of the booking office and covered portion of the Central Railway Station at Antwerp.

The adjudication will take place at 11 a.m. on the 26th October. Tenders, addressed to "M. Motte, Ingénieur en chef, 13, rue de Brabant, Brussels," must be posted not later than the 22nd October. A deposit of 6,000 frs. (240*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Plans and specifications may be obtained from the above-mentioned address.

SPAIN.

Printing Machinery.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 19th September contains a Royal Decree, authorising the Director-General of the Treasury to purchase certain printing machinery without the formalities of a public call for tenders, the estimate of the cost of acquiring and installing the machinery being 67,395 pesetas (about 1,940*l.*).

Paper.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 23rd September contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Spanish Mint and Stamp Office of 6,600 reams of continuous white paper with a special mark for use in the manufacture of bills of exchange and "pagarés" during the years 1905, 1906 and 1907. Particulars can be seen at the office referred to in Madrid, where adjudication of tenders will take place on 27th October.

The "Gacetas" containing the above notices may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

Establishment of New Industry at Volpiano.

The "Bolletino delle Finanze" states that the municipal authorities of Volpiano, in the Province of Piedmont, with a view to furthering the industrial development of the town, have offered to make a free grant of land in the neighbourhood to any person wishing to establish a factory. The municipal authorities state that railway and tramway facilities are to be found in the town, and that electric and hydraulic motive power is also available.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Paper.

The "Bolletino delle Finanze" (Rome) states that the prolonged drought experienced this year caused considerable damage to various Austrian industries. Paper manufacturers, among others, suffered considerably; the majority were compelled to limit their production, and some had to suspend work entirely for a period. Only a few of the largest firms were able to produce their normal quantity. Manufacturers' stocks are consequently very low, and a considerable increase in the price of all kinds of paper and cardboard is looked for.

MONTENEGRO.

Cereals and Forage.

According to the "Bollettino delle Finanze," the harvest in Montenegro has proved so unsatisfactory, owing to lack of rain, that large quantities of cereals and forage will have to be imported into the Principality during the winter.

MEXICO.

Leather.

The "Journal des Tarifs et Traités de Commerce" states that there is a large demand in Mexico for sole leather, calf and kid; these leathers are imported in considerable quantities, although the Customs duties are heavy. The supply, at present, comes mainly from the United States and Germany.

There is also a good opening for high-class morocco leather, some German firms doing a considerable trade in that article.

The usual conditions of payment are three months after acceptance.

CHILE.

Railway Port Works.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile for 29th July, publishes a Law granting to Don Alberto Cousiño permission for the construction and working by steam or electric power of a railway from the port of

Openings for British Trade.

CHILE—*continued.*

Quintero to form a junction with the Government Railway from Santiago to Valparaiso either at the station of Calera or at that of Nogales. The concessionnaire is also empowered to construct certain port works at Quintero.

Electrical Material.

The "Diario Oficial" of 4th August publishes a Law with reference to electrical concessions in Chile, the following being the principal provisions:—

The grant of concessions for electrical enterprises falls within the functions of the President of the Republic, who is also to take measures for the inspection of electrical tramways, railways, and other enterprises from the point of view of public safety.

Concessions for electrical undertakings with underground wires may be granted for 20 years, but the term of those with overhead wires is not to exceed 10 years.

In Santiago, Valparaiso, and other towns where electric tramways exist, the electric telephone wires, electric lighting wires, and other electric conductors for distributing electric power are to be placed underground. A term of four years is allowed for the replacement of existing lines by underground lines. Lines exclusively used for tramway service are excepted from this regulation.

Within six months from the publication of the Law certain safety apparatus, in conformity with details to be specified in regulations to be issued by the President, are to be installed in every electric tramcar.

The "Diarios" referred to can be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Improvement of Water Supply at Manaos.

The "Brazilian Review" of the 16th August publishes a report of an address delivered by the Governor of the State of Amazonas at the opening of the State Congress on the 16th July. In the course of his remarks, the Governor stated that the question of improving the water supply of Manaos has for some time engaged the attention of the Public Works Department.

He pointed out that for a city of the size and importance of Manaos, with its constantly growing population, the present defective system is quite unsuitable and should be replaced by drawing its supply from several different catchment areas at a distance from the city. For this purpose new mains have been

Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

ordered from Europe, but so long as supplies are intermittent it will be impossible to meet all the requirements of the population, especially in the more central and crowded districts where consumption is heaviest.

Printing Machines.

His Excellency also remarked that the official printing works of the State are now self-supporting, but would give better results were new machines introduced.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Alexandria.—In his recent report, H.M. Consul-General at Alexandria writes:—

"British trade with Alexandria holds a very commanding position, but in almost all directions increasingly strong competition has to be faced. I am told by persons in a position to judge, that there are two points in which more is required to be done by the British trader, if he is to continue to successfully meet his rivals in Egypt. The one is a greater adaptability to the wants of his customers, not only in the form of his goods, but also in the language and trade terms of his circulars and price lists. The second (and even more important) requirement is more numerous and better equipped travelling agents.

"I am well aware that in dwelling upon these two points I am not throwing any new light on the matter. These requirements have been mentioned, I think, by nearly everyone who has had occasion to report on the subject. Some traders have acted in accordance with such suggestions, and have met with, in Egypt, very satisfactory results.

"There is scarcely a single class of imported goods mentioned in the 15 custom-house categories in which traders of the United Kingdom have not some share. The openings, therefore, are all indicated and there are in every line some British traders already engaged."

H.M. Consul-General then gives a list* of articles of import of which some already come from the United Kingdom, and remarks that it is more than probable that the British share would be increased if traders at home thought it worth their while to send out travellers to open out business for them.

He adds that should any British firm on perusing the list, think that it is possible that they might successfully compete in

* Reference should be made to pp. 21-4 of the report itself, obtainable from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C., at a cost of 3½*d.*, exclusive of postage.

British Trade Abroad.

the import of any class of goods mentioned, he will, on their application, do his best to supply them with a detailed list of the articles included under the general heading given.

A perusal of the list may further show that there are some articles of import which do not at present come from the United Kingdom, but which might with advantage be taken up by some British traders, and should any individual British subject, or any British firm think that there may be an opening for trade in any of these articles, the Consul-General will, on receiving an application, furnish such information as he may be able to obtain as to the nature and source of the present import. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,274.)

Belgium.—In his report on the trade of Belgium for the year 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,275), H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp remarks that Belgium is a country which offers special advantages to British commercial enterprise. Its principal port, Antwerp, is in regular steam communication with London, Harwich, Leith, Grimsby, Hull, Goole, Swansea, Liverpool, Bristol, Glasgow, and other British ports, and the Belgian Customs Tariff is so arranged that while the duties imposed on manufactured articles are in no case prohibitive, and in some cases are nil, the entry of raw materials is free. Detailed information is contained in the Consul-General's special report respecting the Belgian Customs Tariff, which was laid before Parliament in June last (No. 612 Miscellaneous Series).

In an annex to his report, H.M. Consul-General gives a list of the principal articles of foreign produce and manufacture which are absolutely free from Customs duty on their entry into Belgium. It is possible that a careful study of this list may lead to increased imports of the goods enumerated from the United Kingdom into Belgium.

Few countries, says the Consul-General, present less difficulties to foreign competition for the home market than does Belgium. No prejudice whatever exists as regards the nationality of the competitor, provided that he complies with the rules and regulations laid down. In the consideration of tenders, generally speaking, not only the lowness of the price, but quality of material and workmanship are all weighed together in the balance regardless of nationality.

The principal condition in securing contracts for the Belgian Government, and also for the municipalities of the larger towns, is the furnishing of guarantees for their fulfilment, as bids, though the offers appear to be high, are far more likely to be accepted when accompanied by satisfactory guarantees than those which would at first sight appear to be more advantageous, but are not so certain to be reliably carried out.

One great point in favour of foreign competition in Belgium, as

compared with other countries, is that the protection afforded to native industries is but slight, and that with the single exception of timber there is a total absence of import duty on raw material of any description.

When a public building is about to be erected, notices are sent out by the governmental or municipal authorities, stating the estimated cost of the structure and the amount of the deposit required, and any tenders which may be submitted are publicly adjudicated on a fixed date, without prejudice of any kind, preference being given to the offer which is considered in every way to be the best.

Apart from large contracts there are many trade openings in Belgium. (See pp. 580-2.)

TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE OF BURMA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the India Office, a copy of an official report on the trans-frontier trade of Burma for the year ended 31st March last, on which the following particulars are based:—

The total value of the trade during the year was 370 lakhs of rupees, an increase over the preceding year of 60 lakhs, or 19·5 per cent. The value of the imports, including treasure, was 2,13,44,097 rupees, as compared with 1,69,45,924 rupees, and of the exports 1,56,48,737 rupees, as compared with 1,40,09,147 rupees, showing increases, respectively, of 25·95 and 11·7 per cent.

Western China.—There was an increase in trade on the previous year's figures of 4·97 per cent. attributable to good harvests, improved communications, and to the general quiet on the frontier since the appointment of a British Consul-General at Yünnan and a British Consul at Têngyüeh. The abnormal exports of Indian cotton grey twist are due to the rise in the price of raw cotton, the exports of which show a decrease of 4½ lakhs.

Northern Shan States.—The trade of these States increased by 3·28 per cent. Railway traffic received an impetus consequent on the reduction of freights. The decreases by the Maymyo route are due in part to the diversion of traffic to the railway and to damage by floods to bridges, rendering roads impassable.

Southern Shan States.—The total trade increased by 10·4 per cent. The increase of 22·49 per cent. in imports was chiefly in cattle, stick lac and timber. The export trade declined by 1·32 per cent., due to the diversion to the railway at Maymyo. The want of means of transport seems to be the chief difficulty of these States, and the construction of a railway would tend to considerably expand the trade.

Siam.—The trade with Southern Siam shows the large increase of 279·52 per cent., principally in imports of cattle, elephants, and

Trans-Frontier Trade of Burma.

silk piece-goods, and in exports of jewellery and silver. This revival of trade is largely due to the tranquillity which has succeeded the recent unrest in Northern Siam. The restoration of quiet revived trade also with the latter country, the returns showing an increase of 36·41 per cent. Cattle and elephants are the principal items of increase. Teak timber, though showing a decrease in quantity, shows an increase in value of 11·1 per cent. over 1901–2, and of 45 per cent. over 1902–3, due to the partial closing of the Siamese forests and a growing demand.

Karenni.—An increase in trade of 38·06 per cent. is due to the enhanced value of teak, though the quantity decreased by 188,000 cubic feet on account of the difficulty of extraction from the forest.

The following table shows the value of the imports of merchandise and timber into Burma, by land, during each of the years 1902–03 and 1903–04 :—

Imports (exclusive of treasure).

Districts from which registered at Burmese Stations.	1902–03.			1903–04.		
	Merchandise.	Timber.	Total.	Merchandise.	Timber.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Western China	13,33,000	—	13,33,000	11,87,000	—	11,87,000
Northern Shan States, &c. ...	33,28,000	6,72,000	40,00,000	40,89,000	8,13,000	49,02,000
Southern Shan States ...	22,80,000	5,38,000	28,18,000	27,82,000	10,18,000	38,00,000
Siam (Southern)	3,43,000	—	3,43,000	15,84,000	—	15,84,000
„ (Northern)	5,15,000	13,26,000	18,41,000	12,81,000	11,71,000	24,52,000
Karenni ...	30,000	24,00,000	24,30,000	51,000	31,02,000	31,53,000
Total, rupees	78,29,000	49,36,000	1,27,65,000	1,09,74,000	61,04,000	1,70,78,000

The value of the exports of merchandise from Burma by land during the same two periods was as follows :—

Exports (exclusive of treasure).

Districts to which Registered at Burmese Stations.	1902–03.	1903–04.
	Rs.	Rs.
Western China	30,40,000	33,18,000
Northern Shan States, &c.	38,01,000	36,18,000
Southern „ „	35,35,000	32,73,000
Siam (Southern)	1,41,000	2,69,000
„ (Northern)	7,52,000	8,86,000
Karenni...	1,35,000	1,34,000
Total ... ... rupees	1,14,04,000	1,14,98,000

TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on p. 395 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 1st September, the following table, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into the Transvaal during the six months ended 30th June, 1904, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903, has been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 26th August:—

Imports.

Articles.	Six Months ended 30th June, 1903.	Six Months ended 30th June, 1904
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, bicycles, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	2,440,000	1,440,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	1,364,000	1,069,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	1,537,000	771,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	825,000	570,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	1,009,000	443,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	427,000	304,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	482,000	238,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	404,000	214,000
Drugs and chemicals	296,000	212,000
Live animals	397,000	172,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils and paints*)	232,000	145,000
Arms and ammunition	42,000	137,000
Stationery and paper (*includes books*)	205,000	130,000
Soap and candles	141,000	115,000
Cotton manufactures	196,000	107,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	118,000	98,000
Vehicles (other than bicycles)	202,000	95,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	104,000	76,000
Woollen manufactures	174,000	67,000
Instruments, musical and other	64,000	38,000
Tramway material...	50,000	38,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	34,000	38,000
Glass and glassware	68,000	37,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	53,000	30,000
Seeds, trees and plants	87,000	26,000
Earthenware and crockery	52,000	23,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	34,000	20,000
Toys and sporting goods	28,000	16,000
Cement and lime	20,000	14,000
Fuse	20,000	14,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	4,000	12,000
Photographic material	19,000	11,000
Carpets	69,000	10,000
Tobacconist ware	21,000	10,000
Linen manufactures	25,000	4,000
Other articles of merchandise	172,000	98,000
Total... ... ... £	11,415,000	6,842,000

Trade of the Transvaal.

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the first six months of 1904, 2,568,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 3,014,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 1,260,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

The value of the principal articles exported from the Transvaal during the first half of 1904, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, was as follows, the figures being extracted from the "Gazette" of the 12th August:—

Articles.	Six Months ended 30th June, 1903.	Six Months ended 30th June, 1904.
	£	£
Gold	5,580,000	7,711,000
Diamonds	—	341,000
Coal	57,000	67,000
Animals, living	6,000	38,000
Wool	19,000	35,000
Tobacco of all kinds	6,000	28,000
Machinery	5,000	28,000
Haberdashery and millinery	2,000	16,000
Corn and grain	6,000	12,000
Sheepskins and hides	*	12,000
Other articles	28,000	118,000
Total ... ... £	5,709,000	8,406,000

* Less than £500.

OFFICIAL NOTICE RELATING TO THE PATENTS ACT, 1902.

Examination of Previous Specifications.

Adverting to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 7th April last, pp. 10-11, attention is called to the fact that the following notice appeared in the "Illustrated Official Journal (Patents)" of 21st September:—

The Board of Trade, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 1, Subsection 11 of the Patents Act, 1902, do hereby fix the 1st January, 1905, as the date for the coming into operation of Section 1 of the above-mentioned Act and do order accordingly.

MINING INDUSTRY IN BOHEMIA.

The following particulars relating to the mining industry of Bohemia are taken from the report of H.M. Consul at Prague for 1903:—

Gold.—In Bohemia there are three gold mining undertakings of which one at Roudny, near Beneschau, is being worked. Official returns from this mine show that during the past year 2,086 tons of ore were brought to the surface. A powerful battery of stamps is now being erected, and crushing is expected to commence shortly. At a second undertaking at Eule, work is also expected to commence shortly.

The total gold ore produced in Austria in 1902 and 1903 was as follows:—

Year.	Quantity.
	Tons.
1902	74
1903	2,147

Silver.—In Bohemia there are 21 undertakings for silver mining, of which three were being worked in 1903. There is only one other in Austria—in Bukowina—but it was not worked. The silver mines in Bohemia are worked by the Imperial Government, and in 1903 employed 3,535 men and 163 women and children, while the production amounted to 21,958 tons of ore, yielding 86,000 lbs. of silver, worth 138,160*l.*

Copper.—There are six copper mines in Bohemia, of which one was being worked on a small scale in 1903, and 10 tons of ore were produced. In the whole of Austria there were only 11 being worked, employing 886 persons, and producing 12,688 tons of ore, which yielded 961 tons of copper worth 57,542*l.*

Of copper vitriol there were 310 tons produced, an increase on 1902 of 62 tons.

Iron Ore.—Bohemia is particularly rich in iron ore deposits, and they are to be met with in all parts of the Kingdom. The richest deposits are in the strata of silurian formation running south-west to north-east from Bischofteinitz through Pilsen, Beraun and Prague as far as the River Elbe at Celakowitz, for a distance of over 20 miles. It attains its greatest breadth, 10 miles, in the neighbourhood of Pilsen, whilst towards the Elbe it gradually narrows down to 4 miles. This silurian basin contains an almost inexhaustible quantity of iron ore.

The iron ore beds between Prague and Beraun are now being worked and produce more than one-third of the total output in Austria. Beside the underlaying beds with fine grained hematite, giving over 50 per cent. of iron, two hanging beds are being worked,

Mining Industry in Bohemia.

containing reddish brown oolitic hematite of great purity, yielding as high as 52 per cent. of iron, but more frequently red clay iron ore with a yield of from 30 to 40 per cent. of iron. This ore forms the chief richness of the silurian beds of Bohemia.

In the year 1903, 693,435 tons of iron ore were produced by 1,368 persons from 20 mines, out of a total of 78 mines in Bohemia. In the whole of Austria 37 mines were being worked last year, producing 1,715,984 tons of iron ore, employing 4,940 persons, at an average price of 7*s.* 2*d.* per ton. The production was 28,312 tons less than in 1902.

Iron.—The amount of crude iron produced in Bohemia in 1903, in 10 works employing 1,105 people, was 286,593 tons. The total in Austria was 970,832 tons in 38 works, and 5,140 persons were employed. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,255.)

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA.

The following particulars relating to the recently constituted republic of Panama are extracted from a report by the United States Consul-General at Panama City:—

The Republic of Panama, established on the 3rd November, 1903, is divided into seven provinces, as follows:—

Provinces.	Capitals.
Panama	Panama.
Colon	Colon.
Bocas del Toro	Bocas del Toro.
Chiriqui	David.
Los Santos	Los Santos.
Veragua	Santiago.
Cocle	Penonome.

In each of the provinces there is a Governor—alcalde—together with other necessary officials.

The ports of the Republic on the Pacific are Panama, Agua Dulce, Pedregal, Montijo, and Puerto Mudis; and on the Atlantic, Colon, Bocas del Toro, and Puerto Bello.

There is but one railway in the Republic, and this extends from the Pacific at Panama to the Atlantic at Colon, and is worked by the Panama Railway Company. It is 47 miles long and was completed in 1855, the first train passing over the Isthmus on 28th January of that year. The cost of this line was 7,500,000 dols., and the gross earnings for the year ending 31st December, 1903, were 1,267,570·91 dols. The majority of the stock

Republic of Panama.

(thirty-four thirty-fifths), formerly owned by the French Canal Company, has passed to the United States Government. The permanent way is in good condition and the rolling stock answers the purposes for the present. The principal offices of the company are situated in the city of New York.

There are no roads leading into the interior. It is doubtful if there exist in the entire Republic 25 miles of road over which a carriage could pass with ease.

Few countries of the size of Panama have such a large coast line. From the Costa Rican boundary on the Pacific and Atlantic it stretches to the mouth of the Atrato River on the Atlantic and to Puerto Cocolito on the Pacific, the dividing line between Panama and Colombia—a distance, including both sides, of not less than 1,000 miles.

The territory lies between 7 deg. 15 min. and 9 deg. north latitude, and 77 deg. and 82 deg. west longitude from Greenwich.

The area of the Republic is 31,500 square miles. In the widest place the isthmus, which constitutes the Republic, is about 160 miles, and at the narrowest between 35 and 40 miles, the extreme length being nearly 400 miles.

The Republic has a population of 300,000, composed of various nationalities. There are pure and even wild Indians, Spaniards, Colombians, Panamans, Englishmen, Germans, Frenchmen, Chinese, Italians, and Americans. It is estimated that there are some 40,000 Jamaicans, and about 2,000 Chinese, most of whom were attracted to the Isthmus during French canal days.

Much of the canal work has been accomplished, and the United States has undertaken to complete it. This will do much to push forward the wheels of progress in the new Republic. It has already had its influence in many ways. Rents of all kinds have gone up, and those who hold a little land want a fortune for it. However, buildings for the officials and workmen will be constructed in the Canal Zone, which will relieve the congestion somewhat.

As is well known, the canal will be constructed through what is known as the Canal Zone. This consists of all the territory for five miles on each side of the canal, excepting the cities of Panama and Colon at the ends.

The length of the canal will be 47 miles, and it is expected to cost not less, in round numbers, than 200,000,000 dols. Should it be a sea-level canal, the cost will perhaps be a fourth more. The construction of this great waterway will almost revolutionise the commercial world. It will be especially beneficial to the United States, as it will place the eastern and western coasts in closer touch.

A large part of the work will be done by improved machinery, the latest patterns being used. It is probable that not more than 12,000 workmen will be actually engaged in work at any one time.

TRADE AND SHIPPING OF THE TREATY PORTS OF THE YANGTZE-KIANG IN 1903.

The following article, based on the returns of Chinese trade for the year 1903, placed at the disposal of the Board of Trade by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, is in continuation of the articles on the trade and shipping of the Yangtze-Kiang, published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for May, 1898; November, 1899; 2nd August, 1900; 25th July, 1901; 2nd October, 1902; and 29th October, 1903.

The net values of the **imports** (distinguishing foreign and native imports) at the Treaty Ports of the Yangtze for each of the years 1901-1903, were as follow:—

A.—Imports into Ports on the Yangtze-Kiang.

Ports.	1901.		1902.		1903.	
	Foreign.	Native.	Foreign.	Native.	Foreign.	Native.
	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Shanghai	41,663,387	14,216,377	53,394,947	8,548,658	39,205,714	14,565,081
Chinkiang	16,637,156	5,708,519	18,148,918	6,263,186	21,073,263	6,640,181
Nanking	1,799,646	628,834	2,806,841	1,072,736	3,429,422	1,057,269
Wuhu	5,851,240	1,921,697	6,190,263	1,951,698	8,676,833	2,676,568
Kiukiang	8,396,856	1,407,703	9,195,229	1,296,364	10,341,137	900,956
Hankow	25,685,954	7,161,102	26,871,607	5,713,272	36,829,444	6,593,569
Yochow	203,003	174,373	499,041	400,318	1,520,468	596,192
Shasi	657,253	123,408	915,564	106,325	1,621,716	110,578
Ichang...	1,110,016	672,701	813,978	422,548	818,809	1,000,941
Chungking	12,598,419	2,555,333	12,885,586	3,155,061	18,073,339	2,871,985
Total { H. Taels	114,602,930	34,570,047	131,721,974	28,930,166	141,590,145	37,013,320
Total { £	16,982,000	5,122,000	17,124,000	3,761,000	18,682,000	4,884,000

The **Foreign imports** in the above table are the total net foreign imports, *i.e.*, the total value of foreign goods imported from foreign countries, Hong-Kong and Chinese ports, *less* the value of the re-exports of foreign goods to those places. Similarly the **native imports** in the above table are the value of the net total imports of native produce *less* those re-exported to foreign countries, Hong-Kong and Chinese ports. In the export table (*vid. infra*) the figures represent the total values of **native produce of local origin** exported to foreign countries, Hong-Kong and Chinese ports.

The total values of the native produce of local origin **exported** in the three years 1901, 1902, and 1903 from the Yangtze Ports were as follow:—

Trade and Shipping of the Treaty Ports of the Yangtze-Kiang in 1903.

B.—Exports (of domestic produce of local origin) from Ports on the Yangtze-Kiang.

Ports.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Shanghai	62,546,012	76,832,103	65,042,104
Chingkiang	5,043,541	5,626,645	6,726,263
Nanking	2,191,597	2,911,108	2,865,834
Wuhu	5,516,815	10,948,867	13,189,382
Kiukiang	7,058,652	9,424,950	11,693,701
Hankow	29,372,642	41,226,299	55,706,487
Yochow	23,133	330,856	1,356,581
Shasi...	331,948	486,290	685,385
Ichang	856,238	1,291,288	1,369,816
Chungking	9,114,976	8,639,092	8,276,796
Totals { H. Taels	122,055,554	157,717,498	166,912,349
Totals { £	18,086,000	20,503,000	22,023,000

The sterling equivalents given are calculated at the average value of the Haikwan Tael in the respective years, viz., in 1901, 2*s.* 11$\frac{9}{16}$*d.*, in 1902, 2*s.* 7$\frac{1}{5}$*d.*, and in 1903, 2*s.* 7$\frac{2}{3}$*d.*

With regard to the shipping at the ports of the Yangtze in 1903 under general regulations, the following table shows the aggregate number and tonnage of vessels (steamers and sailing vessels) entered and cleared at all the Treaty Ports on the river in 1902 and 1903, distinguishing British, Chinese, Japanese, German, American, and Russian:—

C.—Shipping on the Yangtze-Kiang.*

Nationality.	1902.		1903.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	14,453	16,230,468	14,717	16,733,654
Chinese	16,304	6,432,772	20,120	6,879,540
Japanese	3,144	4,826,855	4,043	5,347,650
German	3,923	5,100,559	4,057	4,940,181
American...	1,004	377,538	1,355	439,019
Russian	219	326,570	279	382,173
All other	693	770,384	1,300	1,138,540
Total	39,740	34,065,146	45,871	35,860,757

It will be seen from the above table that the shipping trade of the Yangtze ports continues to increase, the total number of vessels entered and cleared, and the aggregate tonnage in 1903 being in excess of 1902 by 6,131 vessels and 1,795,611 tons respectively.* The ports of Kiukiang, Shasi and Ichang show a

* Exclusive of vessels sailing under Inland Steam Navigation rules (*vide* Table E.).

Trade and Shipping of the Treaty Ports of the Yangtze-Kiang in 1903.

small decrease in tonnage, as compared with 1902; all the other ports show an increase.

British shipping, though far ahead of all other nationalities, does not show quite the same preponderance as in former years, as will be seen by a reference to the following table:—

D.—Table showing the percentage of the Chinese and Foreign Flags (Tonnage) in the Shipping of the Yangtze.*

Nationality.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
British	51·2	47·6	46·6
Chinese	17·1	18·9	19·2
Japanese	10·0	14·2	14·9
German	17·5	15·0	13·8
American	1·6	1·1	1·2
Russian	0·6	1·0	1·1
All others	2·0	2·2	3·2
	100·0	100·0	100·0

* Based on the figures in Table C.

The foregoing table of shipping on the Yangtze (Table C.) states the number and tonnage only of those vessels which ply under general regulations. In addition there is a considerable number of vessels navigating the river under what are known as "inland steam navigation rules," and the following table shows the number and tonnage of such vessels entered and cleared at the ports on the Yangtze in 1903, the corresponding figures for the preceding year being added for purposes of comparison:—

E.—Shipping on the Yangtze under Inland Steam Navigation Rules.

Nationality.	1902.		1903.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,926	41,402	1,288	84,838
American	1,839	35,683	1,775	32,352
German	18	96	290	3,228
French	62	394	8	38
Other foreign vessels	24	288	386	33,152
Total foreign vessels... ...	3,869	77,863	3,747	153,608
Chinese	7,787	115,518	9,523	152,816
Grand total	11,656	193,381	13,270	306,424

AGRICULTURE IN THE STATE OF BAHIA.

In his report for the year 1903, H.M. Consul at Bahia gives the following particulars of the trade of that State in coffee, cocoa, and indiarubber :—

Coffee.—" Coffee exports were greatly in excess of those of the preceding year. The crop was a big one, and further, there remained in the dealers' hands a large surplus supply of unsold coffee from 1902—the result of the low prices then prevailing.

" Towards the autumn prices rose considerably, and the shipments suddenly became very heavy.

" The price of coffee fell as low as from 1*l.* to 1*l.* 3*s.* per cwt. in June and July, and had risen to 1*l.* 15*s.* to 2*l.* 2*s.* per cwt. by January of the present year.

" The quality of the 1903 crop was better than anything brought to this market for many years, the berry being well developed; this was due to the favourable weather experienced when the coffee was growing, rather than to any improvement in the collection of the berry, or the care of the plants.

" The prospects of the new crop cannot be said to be favourable, owing to the drought, which has caused the berries to become dry and fall."

Cocoa.—" Contrary to all anticipation the cocoa crop was smaller than the preceding one.

" Unseasonable weather during flowering time is given as the cause of the reduced crop, which only ran to 262,513 bags. Prices remained steady at from 2*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 13*s.* per cwt., but as much as 2*l.* 16*s.* was paid for cocoa of superior quality, cost and freight to port of delivery.

" The area of production has again been increased by new plantations, and it is hoped that the 1904 returns will show a marked improvement.

" Competition is so keen amongst exporters that very little margin is left for commission to those engaged in the trade, and even this is often further reduced owing to the frequent claims made by the receivers.

" Machinery is hardly ever employed by the planter for the drying of the beans, although it is evident that its use could not fail to be of great benefit, whenever the weather proved unseasonable."

Indiarubber.—" Indiarubber improved greatly during the past year. An increasing and steady demand from Europe caused the discovery of new sources of supply in the interior of this State.

" Vast forests of maniçoba, the existence of which was never suspected, were exploited and a grade of rubber supplied far superior to anything hitherto seen on the Bahia market. Prices appear to have been satisfactory to collectors, and had it not been for the scarcity of labour and the absence of proper roads and insufficient water supply for the pack mules, the arrivals would have been far greater.

Agriculture in the State of Bahia.

"Two qualities reach Bahia—Mangebeira, which fetched from 1*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* per lb., and Maniçoba, which was promptly bought up at from 2*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* 10*d.* per lb., cost and freight to the United Kingdom.

"Towards the end of the year prices fell away from the highest point reached. . . .

"I have seen samples of some specially well-cleaned and prepared maniçoba which recently* reached the market from one of the new districts, and this readily fetched from 3*s.* to 4*s.* per lb.

"The rubber is collected by the few natives who are sufficiently energetic to undertake the labour, and the forests appear to be the property of no definite owners, title to land being always vague and unsatisfactory away from the towns and the competent authorities." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,256.)

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Amended Regulations relating to Drawbacks.

A copy of the "Canada Gazette" for 10th September last has been received containing an Order-in-Council issued on 20th August, 1904, which repeals the Drawback Regulations of 2nd November, 1894, and substitutes revised regulations, to come into effect from 1st July, 1904, governing drawbacks on articles manufactured, or produced, wholly or in part from imported materials in respect of articles exported from the Dominion of Canada.

By clause 1 of the present regulations it is provided that when imported materials on which duties have been paid are used, wrought into, or attached to, any article manufactured in Canada, there may be allowed on the exportation of such articles beyond the limits of Canada, a drawback of 99 per cent. of the duties paid on the materials used, wrought into, or attached, to the articles imported; provided, however, that such drawback shall not be paid unless the duty has been paid on the materials so used as aforesaid within three years of the date of the exportation of the Canadian manufactured article, nor unless the claims as presented at any one time aggregate *ten* dollars.

By a further Order-in-Council also issued on the 20th August, 1904, it is notified that the above regulations governing drawbacks

* Report dated 15th July.

are adopted, with the proviso that drawbacks of Customs duty shall not be paid in respect of any material used and wrought into or attached to any article manufactured in Canada and exported therefrom, if a bounty be authorised to be paid by the Dominion Government on such article when made in Canada.

NATAL.

Fees Leviable for Examination of Explosives Imported.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a Government Notice (No. 554 of 1904) which was issued by the Natal Colonial Secretary, on 22nd August, 1904, laying down the tariff fees payable for the examination by the Government Chemist, of dynamite and other explosives imported into Natal, as follows :—

	s.	d.
For the first 100 cases of dynamite or other explosive	10	0
For every additional 100 cases or part of 100 cases	5	0

One sample from each 100 cases or part of 100 cases must be sent to the Government Laboratory for examination, and cases of detonators will be regarded as separate shipments of explosives.

Plant Diseases Act, 1904.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Natal Government Gazette" for 23rd August last, containing the "Plant Diseases Act, 1904" (No. 45 of 1904), which provides for the prevention of the introduction and spread of diseases in plants imported into the Colony.

The present Act repeals Act No. 15 of 1881, and it is provided that it shall not come into force until six months after the promulgation of the same in the "Natal Government Gazette."

Provision is made under section 6 of the Act, for the Government to prohibit, by Proclamation, the introduction into Natal of any plant which may be considered likely to introduce any disease. Such Proclamation may either be absolute or subject to such conditions or exceptions as may seem proper, and may apply to the introduction of plants either generally or from any specified place.

EGYPT.

Valuation Tariff for Raw Silk.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 12th September contains the text of a Valuation Tariff* in use by the Egyptian Customs authorities for the purpose of assessing Customs duties on raw silk. The Tariff, which came into force on the 9th September, and is to remain in operation for seven months, or until subsequent denunciation, is as follows :—

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

Description of Raw Silk.	Valuation per kilog.†
	Millièmes.‡
Italian, yellow and white (fine)	670
" " " ("*Akadi*")	500
Chinese and Japanese, white (fine)	1,000
Chinese, yellow (fine)	780
Japanese, white ("*Akadi*" and "*Taklid Shamt*")	400
Russian, white and yellow	900
Persian, " " ("*Racht*")	1,100
" " " ("*Shamt*")	1,200
Indian and Indo-Chinese, yellow ("*Menaur Akadi*")	300
Chinese ("*Spaolo*")	240
Broussan and Syrian, yellow and white ("*Akadi*")	550
" " yellow (fine)	780
" " white (fine)	1,000
"*Shamt*," from Syria, of all qualities	1,100
"*Maftoul*," of whatever origin	1,300

* For particulars as to the nature of these Egyptian Valuation Tariffs, see "Board of Trade Journal" for the 19th March, 1903, pp. 589-90.

† Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.

‡ 1,000 millièmes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

RUSSIA.

Temporary Cessation of the Transport in Bond of Foreign Merchandise over Siberian Railway.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a circular recently issued by the Russian Department of Customs, notifying that, in consequence of the war in the Far East, the receipt of foreign goods at European Custom Houses for transportation (free of duty and without inspection) in transit to Cheliabinsk or stations beyond by railway is suspended until further notice.

FRANCE.

Customs Treatment of Mixed Wool and Mohair Yarns.

The attention of manufacturers of yarns of mohair mixed with wool is drawn to the following regulations of the French Customs Department, which have recently been communicated to H.M. Government through H.M. Ambassador at Paris:—

"The Customs Administration have decided that yarns of mohair mixed with wool are to be admitted free of duty, under No. 377 of the Tariff, when it is established by an authentic certificate that they contain a preponderating proportion of mohair. This certificate must emanate from the Bradford Conditioning House, must receive the *visa* of the French Consul, and be accompanied by a sample sealed with the seal of the Consulate. It is to be understood, however, that in case of doubt with regard to the composition of the yarns, the Customs authorities reserve the right to have recourse to expertise as provided by law."

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Inspection of Imported Food Products: Suggestions to Importers. Standard Definitions of Pure Foods.

With reference to previous notices which have appeared in the "Journal" on the subject of legislation prohibiting the introduction of adulterated foodstuffs into the United States, and particularly to the notice at p. 506 of the "Journal" for the 11th June, 1903, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a circular of the United States Department of Agriculture containing certain suggestions to importers of food products, made with a view to facilitating the execution of those provisions of the Agricultural Appropriation Acts for 1903–4 and 1904–5 which relate to the inspection of imported food products.

The expression "food products" includes foods, beverages, and condiments, and ingredients of such articles; and the inspection is directed to the following points:—

(*a*) Adulteration or unwholesomeness.

(*b*) and (*c*) False branding or labelling.

(*d*) Prohibition or restriction of the articles in the country of origin.

The nature and condition of food products which will be deemed to constitute adulteration, unwholesomeness (injury to health), and false branding or labelling are severally described; and specific "illustrations" are given in regard to the character of certain food products (wines, spirits, fruit compounds, sausages, &c.), which may be imported. Importers are advised to require their agents in foreign countries to comply carefully with the following general requirements:—Freedom from deleterious substances, notification of added foreign substances, truthfulness in labelling.

Annexed to the Circular is the official text of the "standard definitions" of pure food, issued by the Secretary of Agriculture on the 21st November last, to which imported food stuffs must conform.

A copy of this Circular may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Dutiable value of Cuban cigars and cigarettes.—The internal-revenue tax imposed by the Cuban Government upon cigars and cigarettes, which is not collected if the goods are exported, is a dutiable item, and should be added to the invoice values in determining the dutiable value of such cigars and cigarettes.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Whisky jugs.—Earthenware jugs imported filled with whisky, in packages each containing not less than one dozen jugs, as prescribed by paragraph 296 of the Tariff, are entitled to free entry as the usual coverings for merchandise subject to specific duty.

[This modifies a previous Decision, published at p. 266 of the "Journal" for the 12th May last.]

Bottles and other measures—American standards.—The specification of measures in the Tariff is presumed to have reference to American standards and not to those of the country of exportation.

The provision in paragraph 295 of the Tariff, for champagne in bottles containing more than "one pint," refers to the American pint. "Imperial pint" bottles, which hold more than an American pint, are included among "bottles containing not more than one quart and more than one pint."

Parts of watch guards.—Nickel parts of unfinished chains, intended to be made up into watch guards, are dutiable as parts of jewellery, at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem*, under paragraph 434 of the Tariff.

Precious stones.—Jasper, tiger-eye, brown sard (onyx) and carnelian, advanced in condition or value from their natural state by cleaning, splitting, cutting, &c., but unset, are dutiable as precious stones, under paragraph 435 of the Tariff, at the rate of 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Also the following:—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
Thermometers frosted or ground by a process of sand blasting; dutiable as "articles of which glass, cut, frosted or ground, is the component material of chief value" ... ... [This reverses a previous Decision, published at p. 313 of the "Journal" for the 13th August, 1903.]	100	60 % *ad val.*
Millinery ornaments (buckles, pins, &c.) of glass (in imitation of jet) and metal, the glass being cut and forming the material of chief value; dutiable as "articles of glass, cut"	100	60 % "
Gelatin toys.—Small articles in the form of animals, &c., stamped or cut from thin sheets of gelatin and bearing a printed advertisement on one side thereof, which curl or twist when held in the hand; dutiable as "toys"	418	35 % "
Bromofluoresic acid, dutiable as a "coal-tar preparation"	15	20 % "
Porcelain insulators coated with a single glaze; dutiable as "porcelain, . . . not ornamented or decorated"	96	55 % "

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Lourenço Marques: Regulations for Working New Wharf.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the Acting British Consul-General at Lourenço Marques, forwarding a translation of the regulations which have been published to govern the working of the new wharf at that port. The following are among the more important articles contained in these regulations:—

Article 14.—Captains of vessels are strictly prohibited from carrying gunpowder or any explosive material. When a ship brings, among its cargo, gunpowder, dynamite, or any other substance of an explosive nature, the captain will inform the pilot at the bar when he receives him.

Section One.—Explosive material will be removed to a place reserved for such material at the expense of the vessel before it comes alongside the wharf.

Section Two.—Inflammable materials considered as dangerous substances cannot be discharged at the wharf unless means are available for their immediate removal.

Section Three.—Contravention of this article will be punished by a fine of from 100*l.* to 500*l.*

Article 33.—The Director of Customs may allow, if he thinks fit, the discharge of such goods at the wharf as are mentioned in Article 10 of Table 7 annexed to the Customs reorganisation regulations, and approved by the decree of 29th July, 1902, excepting explosive substances.

Article 35.—The railway will provide the trucks necessary for conveying the cargo discharged to the stores they are destined for, after payment of the necessary wharfage dues.

Section One.—When the goods are destined for other places, the importers may remove the same by any means of transport they wish, or by that of the railway after payment of railway charges.

Article 36.—The captains and shipping companies will provide the necessary staff for loading the cargo on to trucks, for discharging it into warehouses and yards, and for stowing it.

Article 45.—All goods without exception, taken on board or discharged at the wharf, are subject to the wharf dues contained in Table A, annexed to this regulation.

Section One.—Goods from this Province will have the benefit of 50 per cent. reduction in the wharf dues.

Section Two.—Fractions of less than a ton will pay in the following proportions:—

(*a*) Up to one-fourth of a ton, one-fourth of the tax.

(*b*) More than one-fourth and not exceeding one-half ton, one-half of the tax.

Shipping and Transport.

(*c*) More than one-half ton and not exceeding three-fourths, three-fourths of the tax.

(*d*) More than three-fourths of a ton, the whole tax.

Section Three.—The taxes or dues will be paid in gold at the official rate of exchange, no other money being admitted in payment excepting for fractions less than 2,250 reis.

Article 46.—The wharf dues will be collected by the Customs in the method adopted for the receipts of the tonnage dues, and together with these, being classified under the special heading of "Wharf Dues."

Section One.—On these dues the percentage of 5 per cent. to the Customs official is not leviable.

TABLE A.

Duties payable for goods despatched or discharged at the Gorjao Wharf:—

	Reis.		*s.*	*d.*
For each metric ton of goods	525	=	2	4
For each head, whether horses, mules or oxen .	450	=	2	0
For each head, swine, sheep, or goats... ...	112·5	=	0	6

SPAIN.

Suggested Railway from Santander to Madrid.

The "Bollettino del Finanze" states that the question of improving railway communication with Santander is being seriously considered, The most important improvement suggested is a direct line from Santander to Madrid, by way of Burgos, Aranda, and Segovia: if this line were constructed, the journey between the two cities could be accomplished in less than eight hours.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

SWEDEN.

Mercantile Marine.

H.M. Legation at Stockholm has forwarded translation of an extract from a report, recently published by the Swedish Board of Trade, from which the following is taken:—

In 1902, 25 steamships were built in Sweden, and 21 steamships were bought abroad (17 in England, 1 in Denmark, 1 in Germany, 1 in France, and 1 in Italy). In that same year, 42 sailing vessels were built in Sweden, and 55 sailing vessels were bought abroad. Thirty-nine sailing vessels and 10 steamships were wrecked (7 through collision), 5 were lost, crews and all, and 1

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

had to be abandoned on the high seas. Fifty-five sailing vessels and 29 steamships were put out of use. The largest steamship of the fleet in 1902 was the "Ymer," 2,740 tons, built of steel, in 1896, in Scotland.

The "personnel" on Swedish sailing vessels was 9,339 in number, that on steamships 9,602, or a total of 18,941; 1,501 women were also employed as servants.

GERMANY.

New Artificial Building Stone.

The United States Consul at Mainz reports that a Hamburg firm have patented a process for manufacturing an artificial building stone from infusorial earth, which they call guhrolit. This stone is very light, is fireproof, withstands the influence of most chemicals, and can be easily sawed, nailed, and bored.

FRANCE.

Iron and Steel Production first Six Months of 1904.

The French "Journal Officiel" of 25th September publishes statistics relating to the production of iron and steel in France in the first six months of 1904, with comparative figures for the corresponding period of the preceding year, on which the following table is based:—

—	First Six Months.	
	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Cast iron—		
Forge pig	1,095,120	1,193,214
Foundry pig	270,301	287,423
Total	1,365,421	1,480,637
Iron—		
Wrought iron (various)	295,554	261,910
Sheets	23,191	17,354
Total	318,745	279,264
Steel—		
Rails	118,541	137,619
Wrought steel (various)	394,740	464,120
Sheets	153,290	149,911
Total	666,571	751,650
Bessemer and Siemens-Martin ingots	942,658	1,042,673

NOTE.—The figures given above are only provisional.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

BRITISH INDIA.

Silk Industry in Burma.

The Journal, "Capital" (Calcutta), states that steps have been taken for the improvement of the silk industry in Burma. A consignment of the best French silkworm eggs has been imported for trial in the Prome, Magwe, Pakokku, Thayetmyo and Toungoo districts, and if the experiments are successful it is intended to continue the importation on a larger scale.

Cultivation of Sisal Hemp.

The same Journal states that a very fair amount of attention is being given to the cultivation of the sisal hemp plant in Burma. Experiments carried out at Toungoo, Tavoy and Hanthawaddy have all proved successful, and it is understood that if the hemp in its crude state can be made available in sufficient quantities, merchants in Rangoon and elsewhere in the Province would not be slow in opening up a market. Sisal hemp cultivation is apparently very much to the fore in British India at present, remarks "Capital." A great deal is being done in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, the United and Central Provinces, and in Bengal and Assam, to stimulate the cultivation of this fibre plant.

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 24th September, were as follow:—

Wheat	29*s.* 10*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 10*d.*
Oats	15*s.* 9*d.*

For further particulars see p. 614.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 615, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 24th September, 1904, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1903.

NATAL.

Cotton Growing.

The Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Port Natal an extract from the "Natal Mercury," containing a report of the proceedings at a meeting of the Alexandra County Association, held at Umzinto, in the Southern part of Natal, at

Agriculture.

which the prospects of cotton growing in that district were discussed, and it was stated that a Syndicate had been formed with the object of endeavouring to form a cotton company.

In forwarding the extract, Mr. Agnew remarks that it seems to be the opinion of experienced planters that the local conditions are very favourable for cotton growing, and that the drawbacks which existed formerly need not be feared now.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Cotton Experiments in Trinidad.

In the "Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information," Mr. J. H. Hart, F.L.S., Superintendent of the Botanical Department, reviews the experiments that have been carried on with cotton in Trinidad.

At the St. Clair Experiment Station the trial of Sea Island cotton was not a success, the plants being badly attacked by insects. Better results were obtained with upland or Creole cotton, which did not suffer in this way. Samples sent to the Imperial Institute were reported to be superior to American upland and to be worth about 9*d.* per lb. Sea Island cotton from Princes Town district, ginned at the station, obtained a price of 15*d.* per lb.

It is evident that serious efforts are to be made to carry on experiments during the ensuing season. Over 2,000 lb. of seed have been obtained through the Imperial Department of Agriculture, and a large amount has been distributed. Experiment plots are to be started at Diego Martin reformatory, River estate, Cedros, Dabadie, and St. Clair with Sea Island cotton, with a view to proving whether this variety is suitable for cultivation in Trinidad.

FRANCE.

Sugar Production.

The "Journal Officiel" of 13th September contains statistics of the production of sugar in France during the 1903–4 campaign (1st September, 1903, to 31st August, 1904). In 1903–4 the number of sugar factories working in France was 292, as compared with 319 during the previous campaign. The total quantity of sugar despatched from the factories (expressed in terms of refined sugar) amounted to 769,291 metric tons in 1903–4, as compared with 825,274 metric tons in 1902–3.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Prune Harvest in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

With reference to the notice on p. 321 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 18th August, relating to the prune harvest in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul-General at Sarajevo, reporting that the crop is undoubtedly an abundant one, but owing to the great heat

Agriculture.

and drought which lasted nearly the whole of June, July and August, the fruit is very small. It is calculated that there will be about 3,500 railway van loads of ten tons each of dried fruit, 600 van loads of plum marmalade (Lequar), and 500 van loads of fresh fruit for distillation available for exportation.

Prices will probably be low on account of the smallness of the fruit.

The whole crop will most likely this year go to Austria-Hungary, Germany and Switzerland, as, owing to the abundant crop of plums in France and California, it is not anticipated that English firms will be purchasers.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Wheat Harvest of Oregon.

A despatch has been received at the Board of Trade, from H.M. Consul at Portland, Oregon, reporting that estimates have now been made of the wheat harvest of that Consular district, which, however, vary considerably. The most conservative is 45,100,000 bushels, but it is conceded the outturn may reach 50,000,000 bushels. Deducting the usual estimate of 10,000,000 bushels for seed and home consumption, there would remain at least 35,000,000 bushels for supplying export millers and for export. Under ordinary conditions a large proportion of this surplus would be marketed in the United Kingdom, but of late years an increasing quantity is being shipped in the form of flour to Asiatic markets, and this season large quantities are being contracted for September/December delivery by rail to Chicago, Minneapolis, and other Eastern points. This is rendered practicable by the higher proportionate prices now ruling in Chicago, as compared with Liverpool. California is also taking large quantities of wheat from the Portland District for milling purposes. Should these abnormal conditions continue, it is doubtful if any large proportion of the surplus will be shipped to Europe, in view of the minimum freight rates fixed by the combination of British, French, and German sailing ship owners, of 27*s.* 6*d.* from Portland, and 26*s.* 3*d.* from Puget Sound, at which rates European business is, at present, impracticable.

JAPAN.

Tobacco Monopoly.

The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office copy of a law establishing a Government monopoly in tobacco in Japan, the principal provisions of which came into force on 1st July, 1904. This law provides that the manufacture of tobacco shall be the monopoly of the Government, that tobacco may be imported only by the Government or persons duly authorised, and that tobacco may be

Agriculture.

cultivated only by persons licensed by the Government. The law also contains provisions in regard to the purchase by the Japanese Government of the stocks and machinery of tobacco dealers and manufacturers.

The law may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 22nd September, was 42,120 (including 14 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 38 weeks ended the 22nd September was 1,920,806. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 22nd September, 6,924 bales, and for the 38 weeks, 296,898.

For further details see p. 614.

RUSSIA.

Regulation of Sugar Production for 1904-05.

H.M. Ambassador at St. Petersburg reports that by a Decree dated 18th June/1st July, which has recently been published, the production of sugar in Russia for the season 1904-1905 is regulated as follows:—

1. The total amount to be placed on the home market is limited to 45,000,000 pouds (714,300 tons).

2. The amount of the inviolable reserve is fixed at 6,000,000 pouds (95,250 tons).

3. The maximum price for white refined sugar, which if exceeded in the Kieff district, sugar from the "free reserve" may be withdrawn without payment of the additional excise, is fixed at 4 roubles 20 copecks per poud (about 2·94 pence per lb.) between the 1st September, 1904, and 1st January, 1905, and at 4 roubles 35 copecks per poud (about 3·07 pence per lb.) between the 1st January and 1st September, 1905.

Imports of Herrings into Riga.

H.M. Consul at Riga, in his report for 1903, states that the herring trade, which has always maintained an important position in the Baltic provinces, is in a state of transition, which the Riga merchants are doing their best to counteract. Certain parties interested in Norweigan herrings conceived the idea of bringing them into Russia *viâ* Archangel, which port admits herrings free of duty, and one or two runs under exceptionally favourable

Miscellaneous.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

circumstances showed that the conception so far was good. Later on Scottish shippers took up the idea, and it was found that herrings brought by the northern route would reach the consumer cheaper than by St. Petersburg, Riga or Libau; they therefore made arrangements to ship by this route. But those acquainted with the trade believe that the risk of sending such delicate fish as herrings so far round is too great, and predict an absolute failure.

A return of all herrings imported into Riga in 1902 and 1903 is given below :—

	Quantity.	
	1902.	1903.
	Barrels.	Barrels.
Scotch, East and West coast...	40,061	42,778
Yarmouth	9,041	9,341
Norwegian	26,407	23,037
Swedish	1	1,548
Dutch	1,813	2,777
Iceland	12	43
Total	77,335	79,524

Egg Trade at Riga.

In the same report H.M. Consul remarks that the egg trade has now reached such a position that it is difficult to believe it can increase. Last year 72,315 tons left Riga, as compared with 49,100 tons in 1902, and the number of eggs thus shipped reached the enormous total of 1,041,336,000. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,272.)

NETHERLANDS.

Artificial Gutta Percha.

According to "La Quinzaine Coloniale" two Amsterdam inventors have registered a patent for the manufacture of "liconite," an isolating substance which, it is stated, forms an excellent substitute for gutta percha. This product is remarkably plastic and is very easily worked. It is said to possess more isolating force than most natural gutta percha, and to be proof against the action of acids, alkali and water. The cost of "liconite" is stated to be 8 cents ($1\frac{3}{5}d.$) a lb.

PORTUGAL—MADEIRA.

Export of Wine.

According to a recent report by H.M. Consul at Madeira, the total shipments of wine from the island in 1903 amounted to 6,592 pipes of 418 litres or 92 Imperial gallons, being an increase of 492 pipes over the clearances for the year 1902.

Miscellaneous.

Of the above quantity, 848 pipes were imported for home consumption into the United Kingdom, the remainder for the most part going to Northern Europe.

The regular French and German steamers now calling at Madeira enable the shippers to ship to Havre, Hamburg, Bremen and Antwerp direct, so that transit shipments *viâ* London and Liverpool, except for American and British colonies, are practically nil. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,273.)

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Trade of Mozambique, First Six Months of 1904.

The "Boletim Official de Moçambique" of 20th August, publishes statistics of the trade of that Province during the first six months of 1904, from which the following table has been compiled:—

—		Imports.	Exports.	Re-exports.	Transit.
		Milreis.	Milreis.	Milreis.	Milreis.
Lourenço Marques... ...		2,865,573	1,394,656	134,100	6,782,014
Mozambique		372,638	124,416	23,378	—
Quilimane		206,968	69,082	3,201	—
Chinde		208,054	62,153	131,548	42,026
Inhambane		220,099	52,685	1,079	—
Total	Milreis	3,873,332	1,702,992	293,306	6,824,040
	£	710,100	312,200	53,800	1,251,100

FRANCE—TAHITI.

Trade in 1903.

The following particulars of the trade of Tahiti are based on official figures published in "La Feuille de Renseignements":—

From and To		Imports.		Exports.	
		1902.	1903.	1902.	1903.
		Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
France...		615,485	685,876	645,455	834,885
Foreign Countries		3,207,488	3,221,440	3,622,521	3,843,167
Total ...	Francs.	3,822,973	3,907,316	4,268,086	4,678,052
	£	152,919	156,293	170,723	187,122

The total trade of Tahiti in 1903 amounted to 8,585,368 francs (343,415*l.*), as compared with 8,091,059 francs (323,642*l.*) in 1902; an increase of 494,309 francs (19,773*l.*).

Miscellaneous.

BULGARIA.

Egg Trade.

According to the "Revue D'Orient" of 20th September, the export of eggs from Bulgaria increases largely every year. During the first seven months of the present year, 7,544,856 kilogrammes of eggs valued at 5,066,243 frs. have been exported, as compared with 5,307,550 kilogrammes valued at 3,481,349 frs. during the corresponding period of the previous year. Bulgarian eggs are sent mainly to Austria-Hungary and Germany.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Exports of Manufactures and Imports of Raw Materials, 1870-1904.

The following particulars are taken from a publication recently issued by the United States Department of Commerce and Labour showing the growth in the exports of principal manufactured articles from 1870 to 1904, and the increase in importations of materials for use in manufacturing during the same period.

The statement divides the manufactures into ten groups, which form, it is said, about 80 per cent. of the total value of the manufactures exported. The subjoined table shows the value of the ten principal groups of manufactures exported in 1870, 1890 and 1904 (years ended 30th June):—

Articles.	Year ended 30th June.		
	1870.	1890.	1904.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Iron and steel	13,483,163	25.542,208	111,948.586
Mineral oils	30,431,668	44,658,854	72,487,415
Copper	504,741	2,349,392	57,142,079
Leather and manufactures ...	673,331	12,438,847	33,980,615
Agricultural implements	1,068,476	3,859,184	22,749,635
Cotton manufactures	3,787,282	9,997,277	22,403,713
Chemicals, &c.	2,663,887	5,424,279	13,355,694
Wood manufactures	2,613,715	6,509,645	12,981,112
Paraffin	374	2,408,709	8,859,964
Paper and manufactures	519,694	1,226,686	7,543,728

In 1870 the total value of the exports of the above manufactures amounted to less than 60 million dollars, and in 1904 it had risen to about 363 millions. Copper shows a remarkable growth, especially during the last decade. From 1870 to 1893 the exportations of copper were small, seldom exceeding five million dollars.

Miscellaneous.

In 1894, however, there was an increase to practically 20 million dollars; by 1898 the total exceeded 30 millions; by 1900 it was over 50 millions, and in the fiscal year 1904 was over 57 million dollars, as compared with 504,741 dols. in 1870. Leather manufactures also show a marked gain, having been but 673,331 dols. in 1870, and 33,980,615 in 1904.

The following table shows the value of the ten principal groups of manufacturers' raw materials imported in 1870, 1890 and 1904:—

Articles.	Year ended 30th June.		
	1870.	1890.	1904.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Fibres, unmanufactured	6.043.102	20,541,767	37,814,285
Silk, raw	3,017,958	24,331,867	46,100,500
Indiarubber and gutta percha ...	3,459,665	14,854,512	42,214,219
Hides and skins	14,402,339	21,881,886	52,006,070
Furs and fur skins	2,236,229	2,165,213	9,005,873
Chemicals, drugs, and dyes ...	20,573,832	41,601,978	65,272,176
Wool, raw	6,743,350	15,264,083	24,813,591
Cotton, raw	331,573	1,392,728	9,387,331
Wood, unmanufactured	670,131	13,518,310	20,490,058
Tin in bars, blocks, &c.	1,984,238	6,898,909	21,486,311

Equally interesting with the growth in exportation of manufactures is the growth in importation of foreign material required for use in manufacturing. Curiously enough manufacturers' materials imported in 1904 are almost identical in value with finished manufactures exported. The raw materials imported for use in manufacturing in 1904 amounted to 321 million dollars, and the partially manufactured material for use in manufacturing amounted to 136 million dollars, making a total of 457 millions of manufacturers' materials imported, as against 452 million dollars' worth of finished manufactures exported.

BRAZIL.

Motive Power from the Paulo Affonso Falls.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from the British Vice-Consul at Pernambuco, relating to the possibility of obtaining electric power for industrial purposes from the Paulo Affonso Water Falls.

The Vice-Consul, who visited the Falls, is confident that they are eminently adapted for the production of motive power in vast quantities, and suggests that this might be brought into use at Triumpho, the prospective mining district of Pernambuco, where gold and tin and other minerals are said to exist, situated about 113 miles from Paulo Affonso.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 38 Weeks ended 22nd September, 1904.

—	Week ended 22nd Sept., 1904.	38 Weeks ended 22nd Sept., 1904.	Week ended 22nd Sept., 1904.	38 Weeks ended 22nd Sept., 1904.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	35,828	1,312,112	1,441	154,475
Brazilian	—	77,027	—	4,142
East Indian	—	187,243	1,681	71,312
Egyptian	4,340	280,228	3,570	60,887
Miscellaneous	1,952*	64,196	232	6,082
Total	42,120	1,920,806	6,924	296,898

* Including 14 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn**, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 24th September, 1904, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 24th September, 1904 ...	29	10	25	10	15	9
Corresponding week in—						
1897	33	4	29	10	16	4
1898	25	9	27	0	16	7
1899	25	6	26	11	16	5
1900	28	9	26	1	17	2
1901	25	10	25	10	17	2
1902	26	6	26	4	18	0
1903	27	0	24	0	16	2

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 24th September, 1904, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 24th Sept., 1904.	Corresponding week in 1903.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	11,147	10,790
Sheep and lambs	"	5,065	3,687
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	178	490
Fresh meat :—			
Beef...	Cwts.	85,571	96,192
Mutton	"	39,124	69,804
Pork	"	13,622	13,662
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	103,420	105,223
Beef	"	1,644	4,510
Hams	"	16,988	20,086
Pork	"	5,901	4,715
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	8,168	11,443
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting	"	17,930	12,774
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	67,698	67,840
Margarine	"	17,815	15,806
Cheese	"	70,345	85,616
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	28	81
" condensed	"	14,225	16,052
" preserved, other kinds	"	54	42
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	386,359	456,893
Poultry	Value £	3,190	5,308
Game	"	2,146	
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	30,481	6,824
Lard	"	27,619	31,658
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,612,400	1,708,709
Wheat meal and flour	"	273,700	352,588
Barley	"	645,200	1,320,561
Oats	"	303,900	187,067
Peas	"	38,360	57,713
Beans	"	97,320	63,850
Maize or Indian corn	"	970,200	1,385,808
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	71,504	189,121
Apricots and peaches	"	234	6
Bananas	Bunches.	60,624	78,670
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	43,884	46,208
Lemons	"	7,090	11,100
Oranges	"	3,512	1,543
Pears	"	31,019	15,096
Plums	"	11,552	45,430
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	10,078	19,640
Hay	Tons.	1,761	2,395
Straw	"	1,594	1,737
Hops	Cwts.	8,580	1,887
Locust beans...	"	—	—
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	142,129	237,661
Potatoes	Cwts.	64,157	112,671
Tomatoes	"	18,579	15,361
Unenumerated	Value £	3,122	4,305
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	12,023	3,948
Preserved by canning	"	8,187	8,177

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of August, 1904, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, London, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899-1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

This Gazette is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued on the 16th September:—Employment in the United Kingdom in August; Wages and Cost of Living in United States, 1890-1903; the Minimum Wage in the Scottish Coal Trade; Labour Disputes and Conciliation and Arbitration in France in 1903; the Trades Union Congress; Vagrancy in Switzerland; Wages of Austrian Miners; Reports in Employment in the Principal Industries, &c.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,277. Trade of Odessa in 1903.

Remarks on the grain export trade: table showing fluctuations of prices of grain at Odessa during 1903.

Details of other exports: flour, oil seeds, oil cake, beans, timber, sugar, &c.

Comparative table of exports for the years 1901–03, showing destination.

Government Publications.

Large import of agricultural machinery: remarks on German and American competition.

Decrease in the import of British coal, owing to the high protective duty in force at Black Sea ports, and to the increased output of the Donetz region.

Importation of Indian tea is steadily increasing.

Account of the development of the Volunteer Fleet.

This publication also contains reports from Nicolaieff, Theodosia, Sevastopol, and Eupatoria.

No. 3,278. Trade of Finland for 1903.

Trade in general was brisk during the year, particularly the timber trade.

Depletion of forests, especially in the southern districts, owing to the good prices offered for timber of small dimensions.

Proposed exploitation of the forests of Lapland, which are said to contain about 10,000,000 trees.

Principal imports: coal, iron, unwrought silver, &c.

Proposed construction of a railway from Nyslott to Elisenvaara, at a cost of 430,000*l*.

No. 3,279. Trade of the United States of America for 1903-04.

Increase in exports of manufactured goods and decrease in total imports.

Detailed statistics of imports and exports.

Curtailed production of iron and steel.

Increase in number of passengers and amount of freight carried, and in net earnings of railways.

Table showing the percentages of imports into the more important countries from the United States.

Exports of cotton manufactures to China have fallen off considerably.

List of articles most in demand, showing quantity imported, chief ports of entry and countries of origin.

Notes on condition of working classes—cost of living, wages and prices.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 620. Chicago Summer Vacation Schools.

An attempt to grapple with the problem of the use of vacation time in the case of the poorer classes of children.

Nature of staff and instruction.

Table of growth.

Every school crowded to its full capacity.

Detailed particulars of each school.

Government Publications.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

Reports from the following British Colonies have been issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal":—

No. 428. Bahamas.

No. 429. Northern Territories of the Gold Coast.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Forty-eighth Report of the Commissioners of H.M. Customs (for the year ended 31st March, 1904). [*Cd.* 2,227.] *Price* 4*d.*

According to this report, the gross Imperial Customs Revenue collected in the year 1903-4 amounted to 35,120,865*l.*, or after deduction of drawbacks and repayments, to 33,921,322*l.* The largest items in the total Customs receipts during the last two financial years were as follow:—

Gross Produce of Customs Duties (excluding Duties collected in the Isle of Man).	Year ended 31st March.	
	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Export—Coal	2,266,163	2,317,874
Import—		
Corn, grain, &c.	2,413,520	491,779
Spirits: Rum	2,332,856	2,345,561
Brandy	1,341,031	1,267,419
Geneva and other sorts	1,283,745	1,050,434
Sugar: refined and unrefined	4,476,271	5,600,702
Tea	5,985,862	6,572,734
Tobacco and snuff	12,781,894	12,889.420
Wine	1,527,012	1,339,254

The Journal of the Board of Agriculture.

This publication contains information as to the position of agriculture at home and abroad, crop prospects in foreign countries, and further particulars obtained from foreign and colonial reports, Diplomatic and Consular Despatches, and other sources of intelligence accessible to the department; together with notes on dairying, fruit farming, poultry rearing, and other rural industries. Short descriptions of noxious insects and fungi, with appropriate remedies; information relating to wild birds useful to agriculture; statements of the quantities and values of agricultural produce imported and exported; and records of the current prices of grain, meat, dairy products, fruit, and vegetables, are given in each number.

Government Publications.

Ordnance Survey Maps of Great Britain and Ireland.

The chief Maps published by the Ordnance Survey are on the following scales :—

	Price per Sheet. Uncoloured.
$\frac{1}{500}$ or about 10 feet to 1 mile $\frac{1}{1056}$ or five feet to 1 mile ... } For towns only	2*s.* 6*d.*
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$\frac{1}{10560}$ or six inches to a mile complete for Great Britain and Ireland	2*s.* 6*d.* Per Full Sheet. 1*s.* Per Quarter Sheet.
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County Maps for Great Britain* ...	1*s.*
$\frac{1}{633600}$ or 10 miles to one inch—General Map...	1*s.*

These maps are periodically revised, except the town maps, which are only revised at the expense of the town. The series marked thus * are issued folded for the pocket.

There are agents for the sale of Ordnance Survey Maps in most of the chief towns, and maps can be ordered, and indexes, &c., seen at many head post offices in places where there are no agents. They can also be ordered through any bookseller, or from the Director-General, Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, or—in the case of Ireland—from the Director-General, Ordnance Survey, Dublin.

Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1904, may be obtained from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3199	Austria-Hungary ...1903	1½*d.*
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3260	Fiume ... ... „	1*d.*
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	Belgium:	
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3116	Belgium: Finances and Commerce in 1902 and Budget Estimates for 1904	2*d.*
3275	Belgium 1903	2½*d.*
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3236	Bulgaria 1903	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3113	Denmark (Supplementary) 1902	½*d.*
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428	Bahamas	—
429	Northern Territories of Gold Coast	1½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz. : Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of last year, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

May, 1904.

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OCT 14 1904

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1904.

	PAGE.
Openings for British Trade	577
British Trade Abroad (Alexandria, Belgium)	585
Trans-frontier Trade of Burma	587
Trade of the Transvaal	589
Official Notice relating to the Patents Act, 1902	590
Examination of previous Specifications.	
Mining Industry in Bohemia	591
Republic of Panama	592
Trade and Shipping of the Treaty Ports of the Yangtze-Kiang in 1903	594
Agriculture in the State of Bahia...	597
Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations	598
Shipping and Transport	603
Minerals, Metals, and Machinery	604
Yarns and Textiles	606
Agriculture	606
Miscellaneous	609
Statistical Tables	614
Government Publications (Board of Trade*, Foreign Office, Colonial Office, &c.)	616

For list of contents in detail see p. xix. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. xvii. of Advertisements.*

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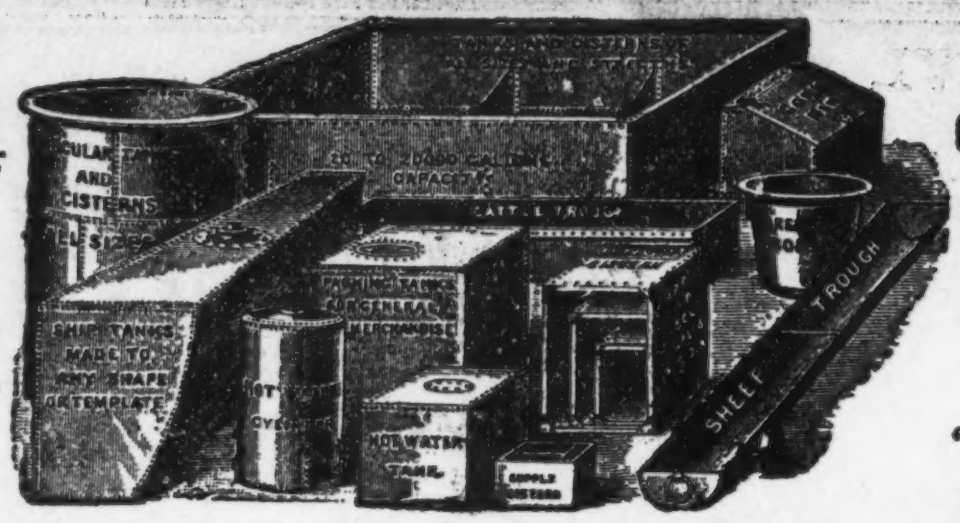

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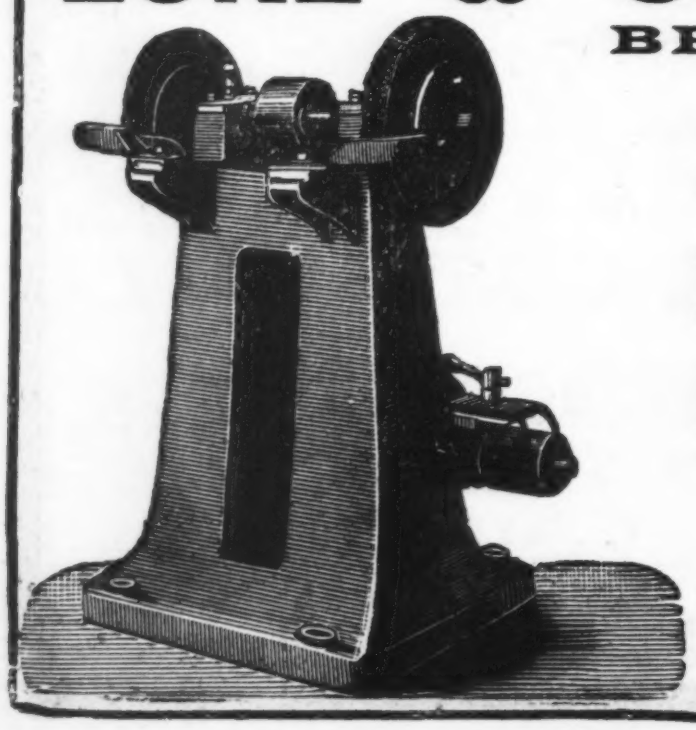

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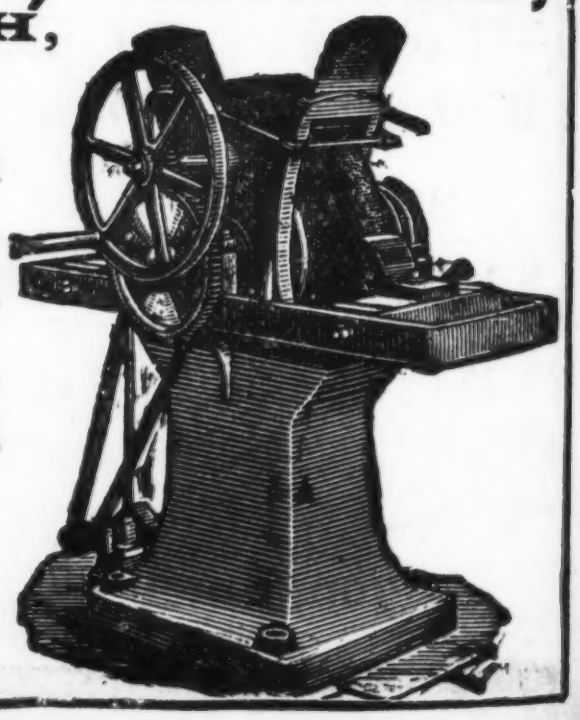

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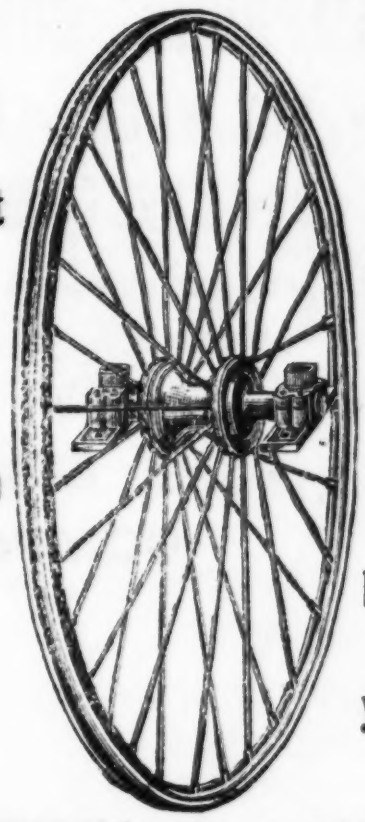

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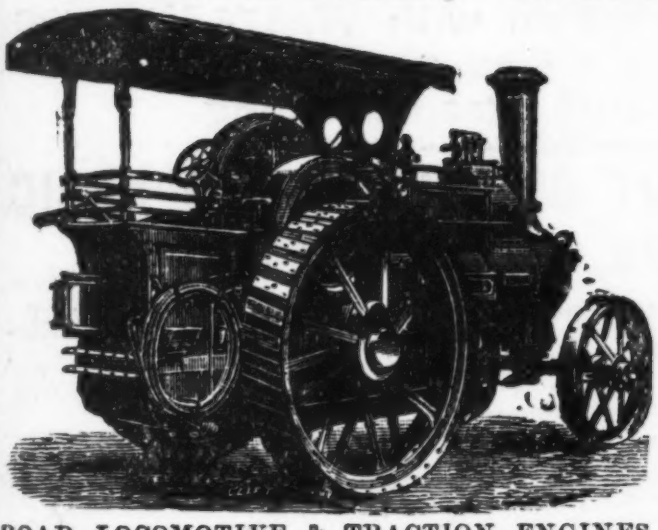

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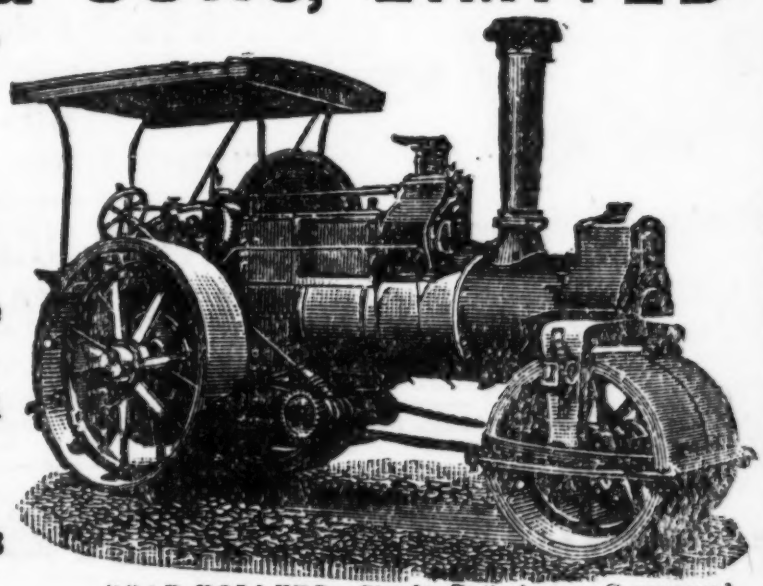

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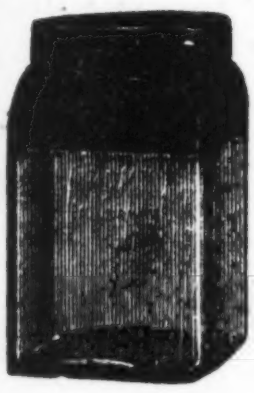

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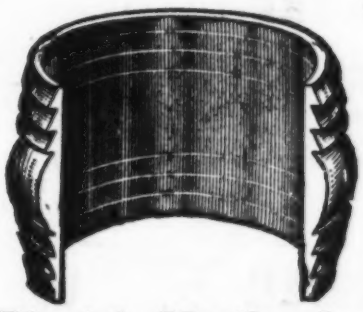
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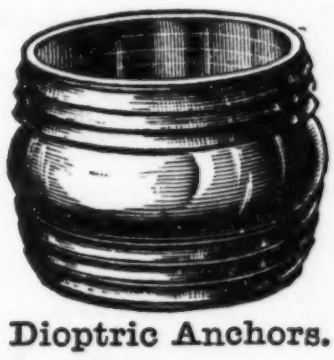
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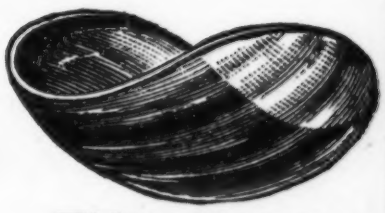
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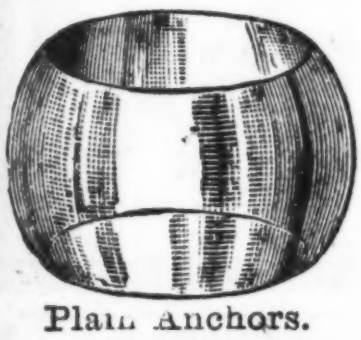
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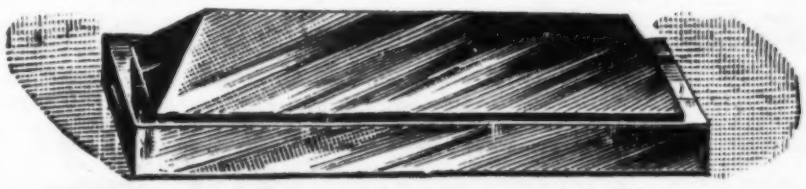
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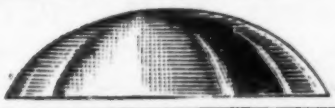
RAILWAY  LENSES.

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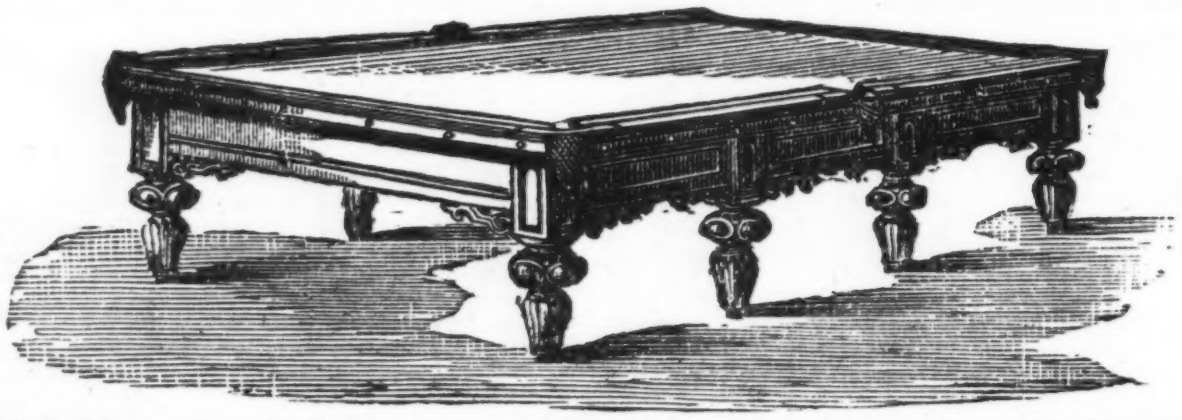

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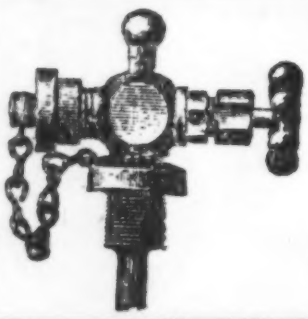

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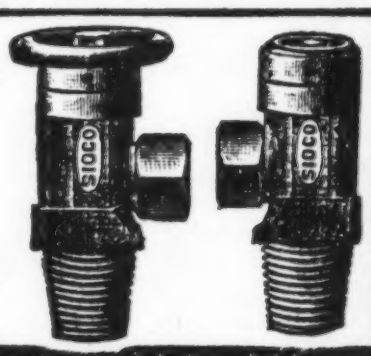

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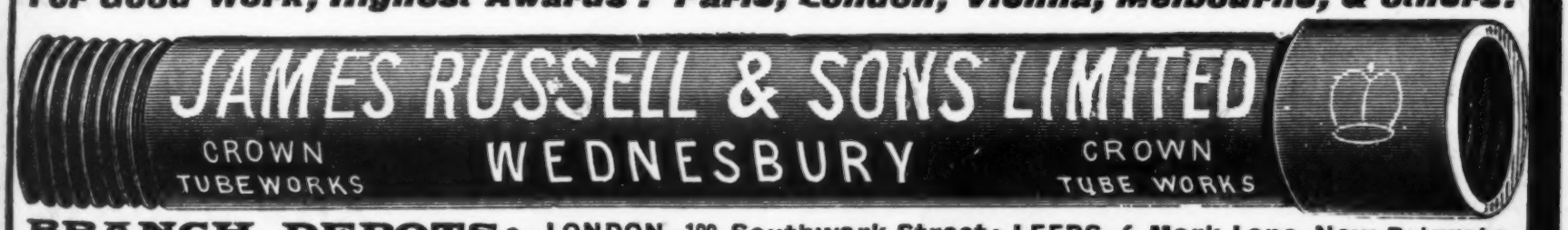

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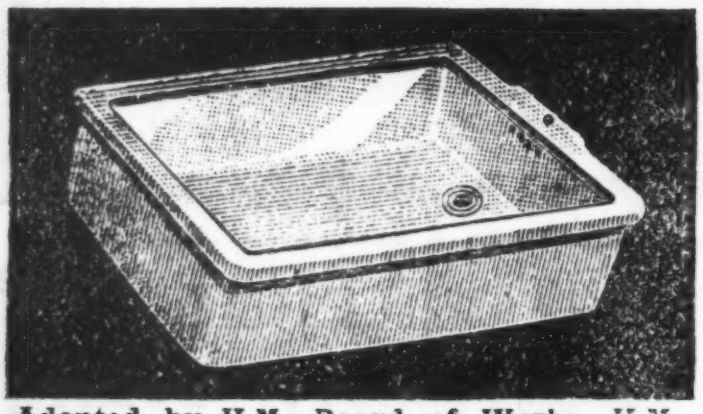

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Plans and specifications may be seen, and bills of quantities and forms of tender obtained at the office of the Borough Engineer, Mr. James Alwin Heap, Town Hall, Todmorden, on payment of £5, which will only be refunded on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender and the return of all other documents supplied.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, or pay any expenses incurred by any person in preparing a tender, and they reserve to themselves the right of accepting the contracts either separately or jointly as they think necessary.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Sewage Works," must be delivered to the undersigned not later than the 10th day of October, 1904.

(By order),
D. SUTCLIFFE,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Todmorden,
12th September, 1904.

SKIPTON.—October 3rd,—550 tons of cast-iron pipes, 12 in. diameter, including irregulars, for the Skipton Urban District Council Waterworks Messrs. G. H. Hill & Sons, Civil Engineers, 3, Victoria Street, Westminster, and Albert Chambers, Albert Square, Manchester. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

ILFORD. — October 4th. — Supply and erection of the following plant, for the Ilford Urban District Council: (Contract No. 8) balancer and switchboard panel; (9) reversible traction booster and switchboard panel. Mr. J. W. Benton, Clerk, Town Hall, Ilford, or Mr. Arthur H. Shaw, M.I.E.E., Electrical Engineer to the Council, at the Electricity Works, Ley Street, Ilford. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable.)

WINDSOR.—October 6th.—For supply of coal for twelve months at various places in quantities as may be required from time to time, for the Town Council. Tenders to be sent to the office of the Town Clerk, 3, Park Street, Windsor.

GOOLE.—For the supply of coal to the schools during coming winter, for the Goole District Sub-Committee of the West Riding County Council Education Department. Full particulars may be obtained on application to Mr. Hy. Lindley, Divisional Clerk, Education Offices, Goole.

LOWESTOFT. — 1,200 to 1,600 ft. of 5-16 in. steel pipe with outside socket joints. Messrs. Mills & Son, Artesian Well, Lowestoft.

PONTYPRIDD. — October 10th. — Steam motor waggons, for the Urban District Council.—Mr. P. Willoughby, Engineer and Surveyor to the Council. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

RICHMOND (SURREY).—October 5th.—Pumping machinery and electric motors, for the Sewerage Board. The Sessions House. (Fee £1.)

SHREWSBURY. — October 11th. — Cast-iron pipe sewers, for the Urban and Rural District Councils of Church Stretton. Messrs. Mansergh & Sons. 5, Victoria Street, Westminster. (Fee, £5.)

CONTRACTS.

Carshalton Urban District Council.

Tenders are invited as follows:—

(1) For the supply of 600 tons of 1½-in. Quenast granite, delivered to Mitcham, Hackbridge, Sutton and Wallington stations as required, before the 31st of March, 1905.

(2) For the supply of 300 cubic yards of hand-picked surface land flints.

(3) For 100 cubic yards of small sandy gravel for sanding roads. To be delivered at such points within the district as may be required before the 31st of March, 1905.

(4) For the hire of a steam road-roller, of not less weight than 10 tons, for a period of about fifty days, as may be required, during the year ending 29th September, 1905.

(5) For the hire of a rutty or other approved scarifier for the same period at per day.

Particulars in each case may be obtained on application to the Council's Surveyor, Mr. W. Willis Gale, A.M.I.C.E., at this office.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Chairman, and endorsed "Tender for——," should be delivered at this office not later than 12 noon on Wednesday, the 5th of October next.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and the persons whose tenders are accepted will be required to enter into the usual contract and bond, which may be seen at this Office.

(By order)
C. P. LOVELOCK,
Clerk.

District Council Offices,
High Street, Carshalton,
15th September, 1904.

DUBLIN.—October 5th.—200 tons of steel work in girders, for the Great Southern and Western Railway. The Secretary, Kingsbridge Terminus. (Fee, 10s. 6d.)

EARSDON (NORTH SHIELDS).—October 1st.—1,600 yards of 3-in. cast-iron and 1,100 yards of 6 in. cast-iron water mains, for the Urban District Council. Mr. J. R. MacMillen, Shiremoor.

HULL.—October 7th.—50 tons of 24-in. cast-iron flange pipes and special castings, for the Hull Corporation. Mr. F. J. Bancroft, water and gas engineer, Alfred Gelder Street, Hull. (Fee, £1 returnable.)

LONDON.—October 11th.—Steam exhaust pipes, &c.—For the manufacture, delivery and erection at the Council's electricity generating station at Greenwich, of steam exhaust pipes, supports, valves, &c., for the London County Council. Forms may be obtained at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W., upon payment of £2 deposit.

MORTLAKE.—October 5th.—Pumping machinery, &c.—For providing and erecting certain electrically-driven centrifugal pumps, dynamos, cables, pumping main, &c., at their works in the parish of Mortlake, for the Richmond Main Sewerage Board. Forms may be obtained at the office of Mr. William Fairley, engineer to the Board, West Hall Road, Kew Gardens, on payment of £1 1s. deposit.

MANCHESTER. — October 1st. — Turntable.—For the supply and erection of a turntable at their car works, Hyde Road, Manchester, for the Tramways Committee. Forms may be obtained on application to Mr. J. M. McElroy, general manager, Tramways Department, 55, Piccadilly, Manchester, on deposit of £1 1s.

CONTRACTS.

Borough of Basingstoke.
Water Supply.

The Water Supply Committee invite tenders for the sinking of a well (about 70 ft. deep), driving adits, and pumping at West Ham in the above borough.

A copy of the plan, specification and forms of tender may be obtained on application to me on payment of £2 2s., which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ-fide* tender.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Well," on the prescribed form only, are to be delivered at my office not later than 6 p.m. on Thursday, the 6th of October.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

F. R. PHIPPS, A.M. INST. C.E.,
Borough Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer.

Town Hall, Basingstoke.
September 17th, 1904.

LONDON, S.W.—October 4th.—Manufacture and erection of condenser water-pipes, supports, valves, &c., for the London County Council. The County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W. (Fee, £2, returnable.)

LONDON, S.W.—October 4th.—Manufacture and erection of three electric car traversers, for the London County Council. The County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W. (Fee, £2, returnable.)

LONDON, S.W.—October 4th.—Manufacture and erection of the following plant, for the London County Council, namely: two 24 in. centrifugal pumps and motors, one 3 in. centrifugal pump and motor, two 8 in. by 8 in. three-throw air-pumps and motors, one 3 in. artesian well pump, fixed and rotary strainers, &c. The County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W. (Fee, £2, returnable.)

IPSWICH.—Crane buckets.—Required, two strong crane buckets, about 3 ft. 6 ins. by 2 ft. 10 ins. Apply to Mason's Cement Works, Ipswich.

IPSWICH.—October 10th.—Boiler.—For supply, delivery and erection of an additional boiler, for the Electric Supply and Tramways Committee. Forms can be obtained from Mr. Frank Ayton, chief engineer and manager, Constantine Road, Ipswich, on payment of £1 1s, deposit.

LONDON.—October 11th.—Engine and tenders.—For supply of 20 locomotive engines and tenders, for the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, as per drawings which may be seen and copied at the offices of the Company. The charge for each specification is £1 1s., which will not be returned. Tenders to be addressed to Mr. Edw. Z. Thornton, secretary, General Offices, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster.

LONDON.—Screening plant.—Screening plant for clinker required on sewage filter works. Send full particulars and price to Applotment, 9, Bridge Street, Westminster.

LONDON.—October 3rd.—Steam road roller and scarifier.—For supply of a 12-ton steam road roller and scarifier, for the Paddington Borough Council. Tenders to be sent to Mr. A. W. J. Russell, town clerk, Town Hall, Paddington, W.

LONDON.—October 4th.—Condenser, piping, &c.—For the manufacture, delivery, and erection at the Council's generating station, Greenwich, of condenser water-pipes, supports, valves, etc., for the London County Council. Forms may be obtained at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W., upon payment of £2 2s. deposit.

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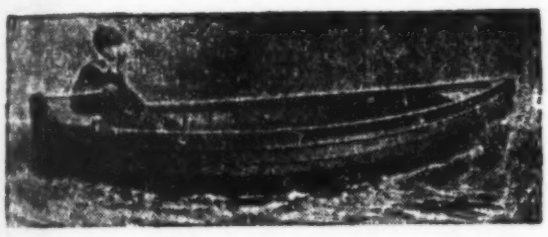
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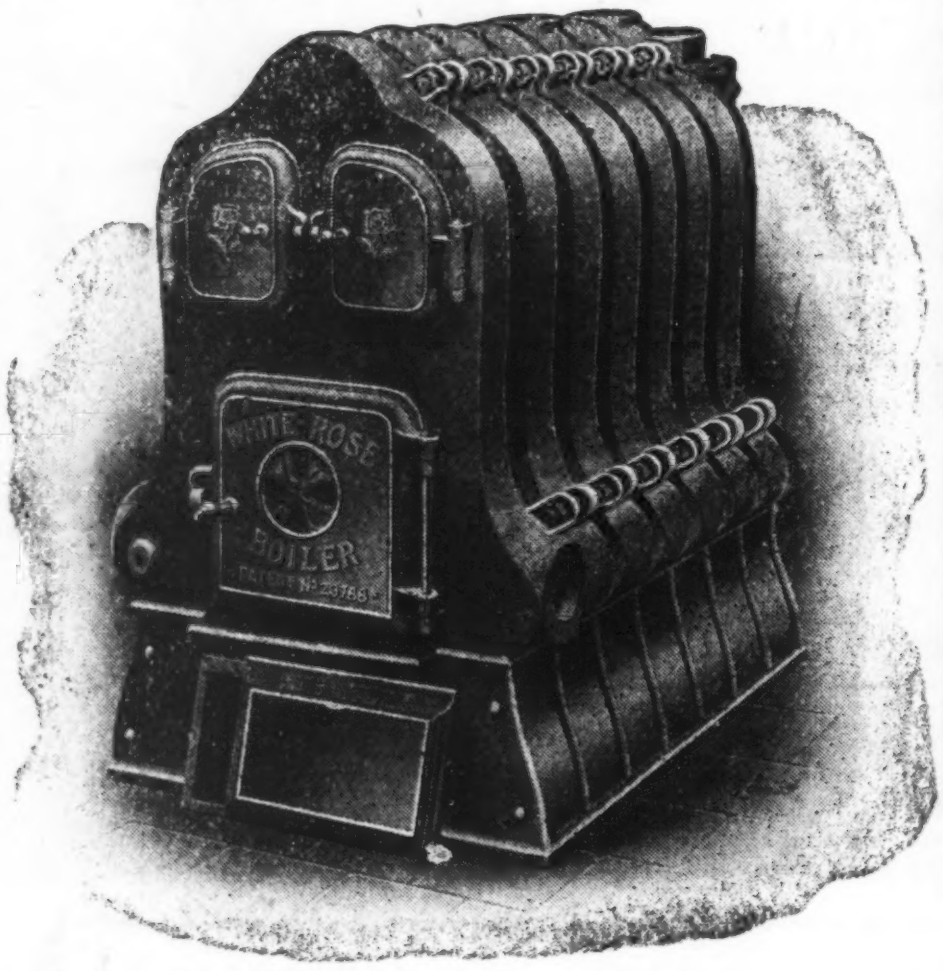

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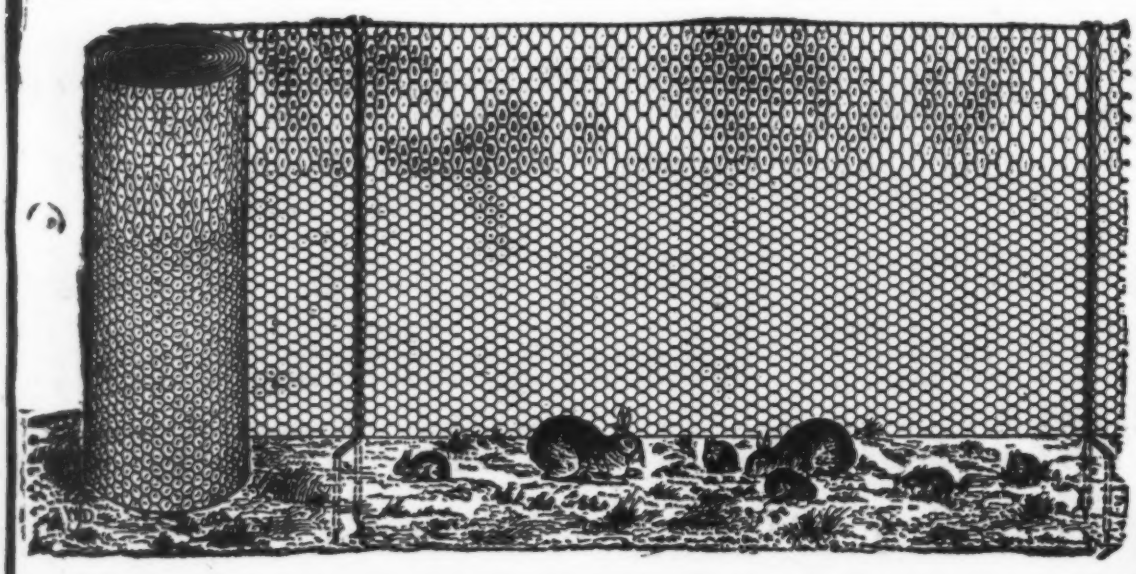

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R. B. BROWN & SONS, Hebden Bridge, England.

Board of Trade Journal.

SEPTEMBER 29TH, 1904.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade **577**

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India:—

Government Contracts: India Office.

Tenders for Indiarubber Fittings and Materials for Steel Foundry.

" " Railway Stores.

Opening for Cotton Rags in Calcutta.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Egypt, Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Montenegro, Mexico, Chile and Brazil.

British Trade Abroad (Alexandria, Belgium) **585**

Trans-frontier Trade of Burma **587**

Trade of the Transvaal... ... ... **589**

Official Notice relating to the Patents Act, 1902 ... ... **590**

Examination of previous Specifications.

Mining Industry in Bohemia... ... ... **591**

Republic of Panama **592**

Trade and Shipping of the Treaty Ports of the Yangtze-Kiang in 1903 ... **594**

Agriculture in the State of Bahia **597**

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations **598**

Canada. Natal. Egypt. Russia. France. United States of America.

Shipping and Transport **603**

Regulations for Working New Wharf at Lourenço Marques. Suggested Railway from Santander to Madrid.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery **604**

Swedish Mercantile Marine. New Artificial Building Stone. Iron and Steel Production in France.

Yarns and Textiles **606**

Silk Industry and Cultivation of Sisal Hemp in Burma.

Agriculture... ... ... **606**

Cotton Growing in Natal. Cotton Experiments in Trinidad. French Sugar Production. Prune Harvest in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Wheat Harvest of Oregon. Tobacco Monopoly in Japan.

Miscellaneous **609**

Regulation of Sugar Production in Russia for 1904-05. Imports of Herrings into Riga. Egg Trade of Riga. Artificial Gutta-percha. Export of Wine from Madeira. Trade of Mozambique and Tahiti. Egg Trade of Bulgaria. Imports of Raw Materials into and Exports of Manufactures from the United States. Motive Power from the Paulo Affonso Falls (Brazil).

Statistical Tables... ... ... **614**

Cotton Returns.

Corn Prices.

Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Government Publications **616**

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Notes of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon Trade, issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued during the year.

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To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

Absorbent Blottings— PAGE
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe ..
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ..

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories 8

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Agricultural Implements and Machinery Manufacturers—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ..

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. .. ..
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks.. .. ..

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London .. ..

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 23
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid— PAGE
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.) .. ..

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd. Glasgow 6

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., B'ham... 29
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E... ..

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London E. 25

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife, Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Baling Presses— PAGE
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton

Bed Feather Purifiers—
Booth & Fox, 86, Hatton Garden, London

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. .. ..

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham .. ..
Evered & Co., London and B'ham ..
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C. .. .. ..
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London .. ..

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol .. .. ..

Belting (Woven) Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 5

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W. .. ..
Edwards, George, London N.E. .. 6

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Binoxide of Barium— PAGE
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. .. .. ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ld., Newcastle..

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. 10

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son, & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C 16

Bitters—
Cooper & Co., Church Street, Liverpool (Peachona) .. ..

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 23
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton .. 34
Keen, Robinson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C... .. ..

Blowers—
Schiele Union Engineering Co., Ltd., Manchester .. ..

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Boiler Makers— PAGE
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ..
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton .. ..
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O...
Hartley & Sugden, Limited, Halifax .. 16
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ..

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury .. 9

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, Herb. W., B'mgham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) ..

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton .. ..

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading.. 16

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury .. 9

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..
Elliott's Metal Co., Birmingham ..
Evered & Co., London & Birmingham ..

Brass Plate Manufacturers— PAGE
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne.. 13

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Brick and Tile Mnfrs.—
Craig, J. & M., Ld., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles) .. ..
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Staffs

Brickmaking Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Staffs

Bronze Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C...

Brush Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol .. .. ..
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C...

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ..

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds .. ..

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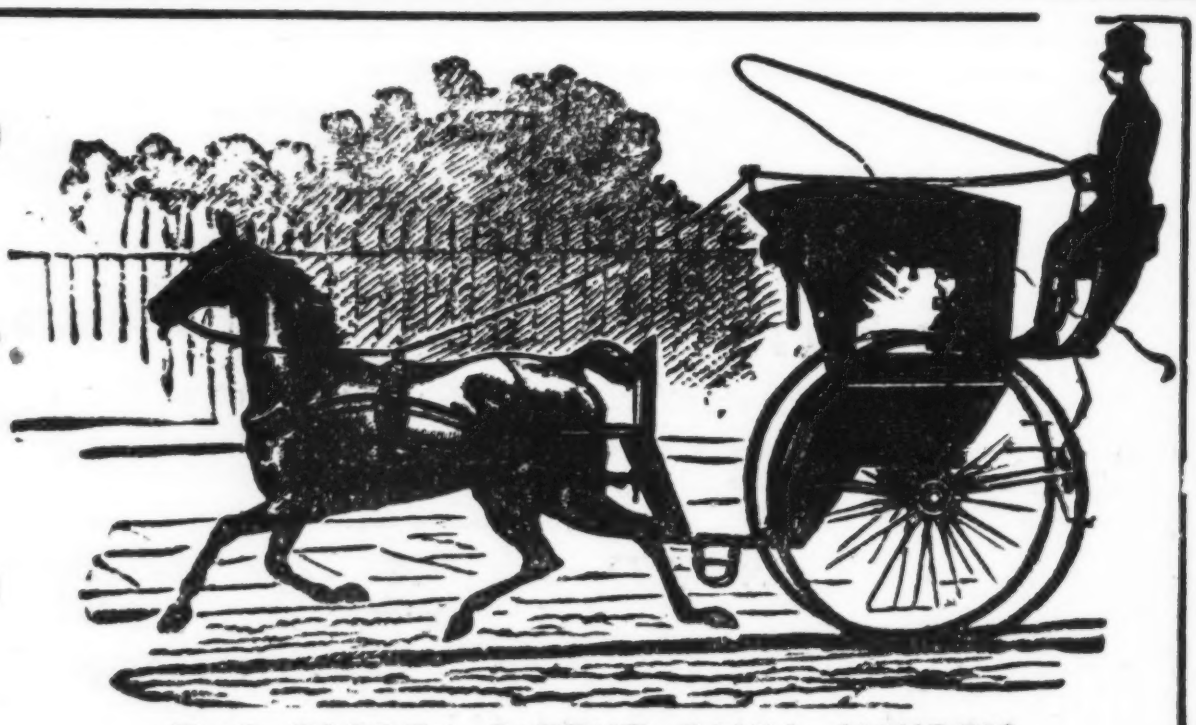

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Button Manufacturers— PAGE

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Cables and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 10
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington .. ..

Candle Manufacturers—

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..
Palmer & Co., Ltd., 43, Holborn Viaduct, E.C. .. ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. 21
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ..

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Carboys—

Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 5

Carding and Teasing—

The Remus Co., 30, Tabernacle Street, E.C. .. ..

Carpets and Rugs—

Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster..

Carpet Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Carriage Builders— PAGE

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton 22

Cartridge Manufacturers—

Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Brothers, London, S.W. .. 33
* West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, near Rochester 8

Charm Manufacturers—

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..
Bessler, Waechter, & Co., London, E.C...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs .. ..
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich Cheshire 23
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ld., Newcastle ..
Miller, Jas., Son, & Co., Glasgow ..
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B...
Fison, Joseph, & Co., Ltd., Ipswich..
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. .. .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—

Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ..

Chemists (Manufacturing)— PAGE

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Evans, Sons, & Co., Liverpool .. ..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) 21
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Chilled Shot—

The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 13

Chimney Cowl Makers—

Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 13

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—

Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

China Clay—

Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ..

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—

Bullers Ltd., London, E.C. 26

China Electrical Fittings—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. 26

China Manufacturers—

Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall .. ..

Chronometers—

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London 30

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Clocks and Watches— PAGE

Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London 30
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C...

Cloth Finishing Machines—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Clothing (Fustian)—

Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge 18

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—

Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. .. 14

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—

Grainger & Smith, Dudley .. ..

Cloths for Machinery—

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 36

Clutch Manufacturers—

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks .. ..

Coal and Coke—

Archer, Mark, Newcastle-on-Tyne ..
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Limited, Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff.. .. 8
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co. Ltd., Barnsley .. ..
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan .. 11

Coal Depot Proprietors— PAGE

Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff.. 8
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..

Coal Screening Plant—

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..

Coatings—Cotton—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Colliery Engines—

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..

Colliery and Mining Plant—

Thompson & Southwick, Ld., Tamworth 3

Colliery Owners—

Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff.. 8
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley .. ..

Colour Manufacturers— PAGE

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Levinstein, Limited, Manchester ..
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
McInnes, John, & Son, Liverpool ..
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—

Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Concertinas (English)—

Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. .. ..

Confectioners—

Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York .. .. ..

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. 9
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Confectionery Machinery— PAGE
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C...

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 10
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. ... .. Cover

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 5

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E. .. ..

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 14
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 36
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester.. .. 14

Cotton Machinery Makers—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. .. Cover

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Roger, Robt., & Co., Stockton-on-Tees ..
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. .. ..

Creosote— PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 5

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ld., Neath..

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Limited, London, E.C.

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow..
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron Strathspey .. .. ..
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.— PAGE
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.. 36
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood .. .. ..

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 26

Down (Real) Quilt Mnftrs.—
Booth & Fox, 86, Hatton Gdn., London..

Dressing Cases, Bags, &c.—
Fisher, S., London, W.C... .. ..

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax .. .. ..

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons, & Co., Bolton .. 34

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical Fittings (China)— PAGE

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 26

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 26
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, near Warrington .. ..

Electric Bells—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electric Light Fittings—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 26

Electric Novelties—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electric Old Lamp Tops (with Platinum intact)—

Derby & Co., 44, Clerkenwell Road, London (Buyers of) .. .. ..

Electric Railway and Tramway Engineers— PAGE

Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—

Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. .. .. Cover

Electrotypers—

Watts, C. F., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—

London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, near Manchester 2

Emery and Glass Cloth—

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London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery and Glass Paper—

London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—

London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath. Manchester 2

Emery Manufacturers— PAGE

London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) 2

Enamel Colours—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks—

Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ..

Encaustic Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Engine Cleaning Waste—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. .. Cover

Engineers—

Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ..

Engineers (Boilers)—

Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Engineers' Ironfounders—

Jardine, John, Nottingham .. ..
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels).. .. .. ..
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan.. 11
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire .. ..

BULLERS, Limited,

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ..

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury .. 9

Engineers and Millwrights—
General—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) .. ..
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) 28
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..
Burrell, C., & Sons, Limited, Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) 3
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester .. ..
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton ..
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ..
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Grover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 13
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) .. 2
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers) .. ..
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ld., The, Reading and London .. .. Cover
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B ..
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 4
Smith & Paget, Keighley (Laundry) ..
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts 15
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire .. ..

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones W. C., Ltd., Manchester Cover

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ..

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading .. 16
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 9
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 22
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd, 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essences, &c.— PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13

Explosives—
Curtis's & Harvey, Ltd., 3, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ..

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 13

Fans—
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough .. ..

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ..

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 36

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards Ltd., Norwich 16

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. Cover

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge ..
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock .. 10
Glenboig Union Fireclay Co., Limited, Glenboig, N.B. .. ..
King Bros., Stourbridge 10
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6

Fire Clay—
Glenboig Union Fireclay Co., Limited, Glenboig, N.B. .. ..
King Bros., Stourbridge 10
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6

Fire Clay Goods— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ..

Flag and Banner Manufactrs.—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Limited, Rochdale ..
Spinner & Co., Manchester 14

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverp'l .. 9
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool 11

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. .. ..

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. 9
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. .. ..

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge 14

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ..

Galvanized Iron Manufctrs.—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham Cover

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. .. ..

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ld., Manchester ..

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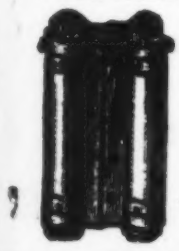

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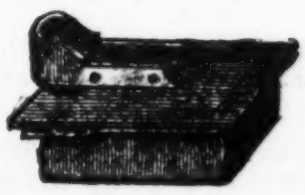

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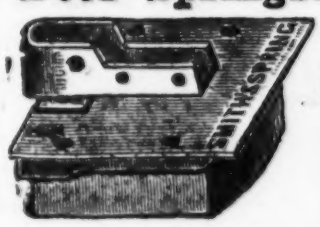

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Gas Furnaces— PAGE
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire .. ..

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield .. ..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ..

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester .. ..
Tomey & Sons, Perth .. .. ..

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester.. .. ..

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 20

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Glass and Emery Paper—
Dalton, J. & E., New Mills, nr. Stockport ..
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 5
Cannington, Shaw, & Co., Limited, St. Helens .. ..

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ..
Stevens, James & Son, Birmingham .. 5

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham .. 5

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock .. 10

Glaziers' Diamonds— PAGE
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Sharratt & Newth, London, E.C. ..

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. 21

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley") .. .. .. Cover

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds..

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons, & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) .. ..

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool.. 18
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.
Luke and Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of) 2

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. .. ..

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Hat Manufacturers— PAGE
Christy & Co., London, E.C. 10

Haulage Clips—
Smallman, James W., Nuneaton ..

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) .. 16
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ld., London, S.W... 4

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Hollowware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham Cover

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Horticultural Permanent Labels—
Pinches, John, 3, Crown Buildings, Camberwell, S.E. .. .. ..

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Hosiery—
Walker, R. & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester .. ..

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors, Griswold Knitters) ..

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 14

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 13

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C.

Hydraulic Machinery—
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ice Machine Manufacturers— PAGE
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. Cover

Incandescent Lamps—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) .. ..
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Injectors—
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. .. ..

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J. & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. 26

Invalid Couch—
Robinson & Sons, Ilkley 32

Iron Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. .. ..

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 13

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ..
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road London N.W. .. ..
Thompson & Southwick, Tamworth .. 3
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks... .. ..

Ironmasters— PAGE
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. 18
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham .. ..
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ..

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester .. ..

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E... 9
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ..

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. .. ..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax .. .. ..
Turner, John G., Halifax .. .. ..

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester .. ..

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 13

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E. .. .. ..

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham.. 5

Letter Cutters— PAGE
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 22

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Limited, Pontefract .. ..

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ..
Brown & May, Limited, Devizes ..
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford .. 3
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ..

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ..

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury..
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ..
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ..
Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. Cover
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. 21

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool 18
Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. Cover
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. Cover

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 36

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Machine Makers— PAGE
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. .. .. Cover

Machine Tool Makers—
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Turner, John G., Halifax .. .. ..

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peter's, Manchester .. ..

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 20

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..
Hedworth BariumCo.,Ld.,Newcastle ..
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels(forVines & Plants)
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, Lond., S.W. ..

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, Lond., S.W. ..

Mattresses (Woven Wire)—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham .. ..
Lane, George, Brueton Street, Birmingham .. ..

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas A., & Co., Leicester ..

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ..
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..
Dugard Bros., Birmingham 9
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 29

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. .. 35

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham .. ..

Mills (Coffee, Corn, Wheat, Spice, &c.)—
Parkes, Z. & Co., 47 & 48, Hampton Street, Birmingham.

Mine Owners— PAGE
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel) 11

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 22

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son, (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham .. ..

Mortar and Pestle Mfctrs.—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. 26

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. 26

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker, & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Wright, H. Hodgson, Halifax .. ..

Mushroom Ketchup—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading .. 16

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C. .. ..

Mustard Manufacturers—
Keen, Robinson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Nails—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ..
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 24

Night Lights—
Palmer & Co., Ltd., 43, Holborn Viaduct, E.C. .. ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. 21

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)— PAGE
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B ..

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ..
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ..

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 13

Oil Mill Machinery—
Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ..
Fleming, A.B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh ..
Goold, M. H., & Co., Liverpool .. ..
Kellogg, E. H., & Co., Liverpool ..
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool .. 18
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. 21
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster 13

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds .. .. ..

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C ..

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 14

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne .. .. ..
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) .. ..
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Paper Makers— PAGE

Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) .. ..
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ..

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—

Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham .. .. .. Cover
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings) .. ..
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset .. ..
Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone ..
Olive & Partington, Manchester .. 7

Paper Makers' Engineers—

Bertrams, Ltd., Sciennes, Edinburgh..

Paper Makers' Steel & Bronze Tools—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argu Works, Sheffield .. ..

Paper Makers' Tools—

Crookes, Roberts, & Co., Sheffield ..

Parquet Flooring—

Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ..

Patent Fuel Machinery—

Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Pavement Light Lenses—

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 5

Paving Bricks—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Pen Manufacturers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Perfumers—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18

Perfumery Materials—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Phosphor Bronze—

Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs... 15

Photographic Apparatus, Materials and Plates—

Mawson & Swan, Newcastle-on-Tyne..

Photographic Process—

Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ..

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments— PAGE

Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham .. ..

Pickles—

Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading.. 16

Picks—

Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham

Pins (Toilet)—

Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Pistons—

Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—

Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..

Plate Glass Manufacturers—

Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..

Poles, Telegraph—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 26

Porcelain Paint—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.... .. 2

Portable Buildings—

Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. .. ..

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—

Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. .. ..

Portland Cement—

Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W.
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham. Rochester, Kent 8

Powder Manufacturers—

Curtis's & Harvey, Ltd., 3, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Preservative for Stone, &c.—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. 2

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—

Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 24
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. .. ..

Printing Ink Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ..
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.— PAGE

Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) 35
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) .. .. ..
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester .. .. ..
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture) 15
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil) 21

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—

Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ..
Gunson, Geo., Sons, & Co., Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—

Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool .. ..

Pulley Blocks—

Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough .. ..

Pulleys—

Thompson & Southwick, Limited, Tamworth 3
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks .. ..

Pumping Engines—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. Cover
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ld., London, S.W... 4

Pumps—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. Cover
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Quarry Owners—

Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited, Hanley, Staffs .. ..

Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Limited, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) .. ..

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham .. .. ..

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 5

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ld., London, N.W...

Railway Spikes—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ..

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J. Shottermill, Haslemere..

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Refrigerators—
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Limited, The, Derby .. .. ..
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. Cover

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham .. 5

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ..
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, H. W., Birmingham .. ..
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhill, Staffs. ..

Rolling Mill Machinery Mkrs.—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... .. ..

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs .. ..

PAGE

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ..

Saddlers' Ironmongery—
Stanley, Elijah & Sons, Walsall ..

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. .. .. ..
Stanley, Elijah, & Sons, Walsall ..

Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N... 6
Ratner & Co., 51, Moorgate Street, E.C. 13

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks).. 10

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock .. 10

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading .. 16

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Scrap Iron—
Stewart, Thomas, & Co., Glasgow, Govan, and Scotstoun .. .. ..

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury .. 9

PAGE

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co., Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham .. .. ..

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Gadd, Thomas, Rowley Regis, Dudley ..
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, H. W., Birmingham .. ..

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ..

Separators, (Electro Magnitis)—
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 14
Hamlyn Bros., Ld., Buckfastleigh, Devon
Spinner & Co., Manchester 14

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Shafting, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks. .. ..

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. .. ..

Sheep Dip (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip .. ..
The Chemical Union, Ltd., Ipswich..

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England .. ..

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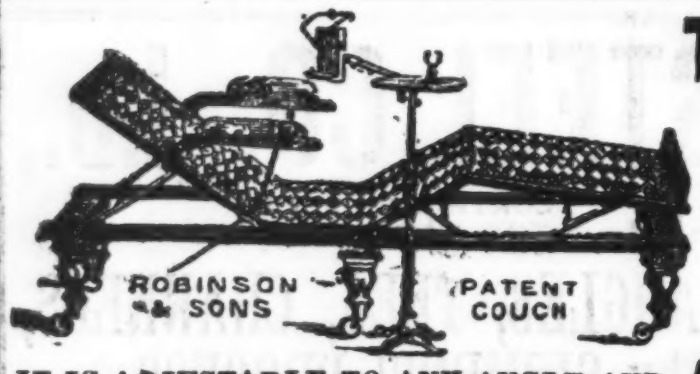
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton..

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton..

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham .. ..

Ships' Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 5



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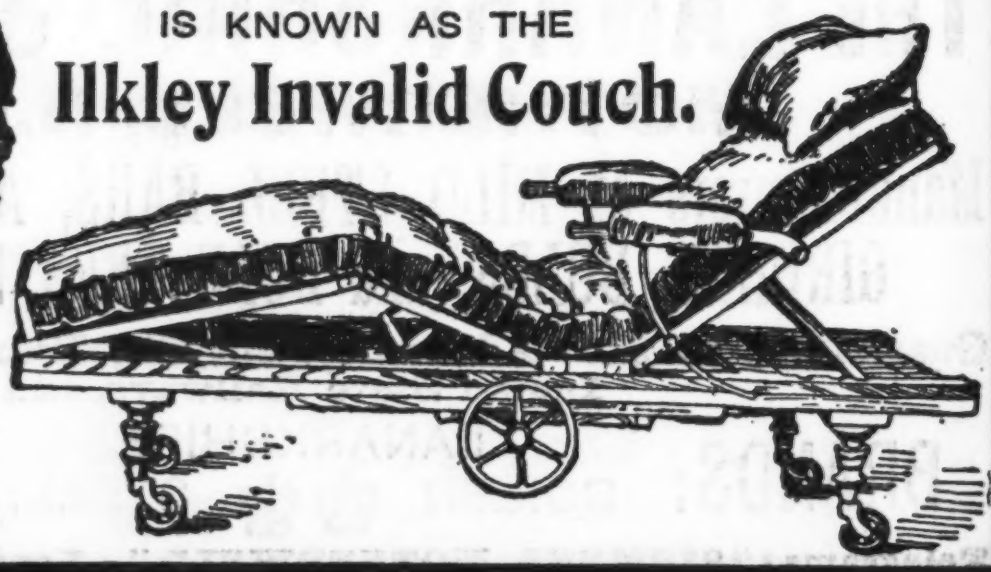

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Shirtings— PAGE

Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 14

Shoe Rivets—

Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Shop Fittings—

Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 13
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham .. ..

Shot (Hard and Soft)—

The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 13

Shovels—

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—

Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Silk Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Sinks—

Craig, J.&M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B. .. 10

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—

Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ..
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc..

Slipper Manufacturers—

Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. .. 14

Slipway Machinery—

Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton..

Soap Manufacturers—

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. 21
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn .. .. ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps).. .. ..

Soap Powders—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Soda—

Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 23
United Alkali Co., Ltd. Liverpool .. 2

Spades—

Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ..
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham

Sponge Cloths, &c.— PAGE

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. .. Cover

Stamp and Punch Makers—

Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ..

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—

Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Stav Busk Manufacturers—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Steam Boilers—

Hartley & Sugden, Halifax 16

Steam Gauge—

Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ..

Steam Pulsating Pumps—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd. The, Reading and London .. Cover

Steam Saw Mills—

Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. ..

Steam Traps—

Whiteley, W., & Sons, Limited, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..

Steam Turbines—

Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..

Steam Valves—

Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—

Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow 28
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield .. ..
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 31
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow..

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ..

Steel Manufacturers— PAGE

Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Limited, Sheffield .. ..
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 31
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham .. ..
Power, F.A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmghm.
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow..

Steel Pen Makers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, London & Birmnghm

Steel Ropes—

Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. ..

Steel Tubes—

Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd. Wednesbury 9
Weldless Steel Tube Co., Birmingham

Stencil Plates—

Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Stone Breakers—

Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Stoves—

Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Limited, Norwich 16

Strong Rooms—

Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N. .. 6

Sugar Refiners—

Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool .. ..

Sulphate of Copper—

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—

Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—

Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. .. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Limited, Leith ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool .. 2

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts— PAGE

Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham .. 5

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—

Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co. London, E.C. .. ..

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—

Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) .. ..

Syphons and Seltzogenes—

Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 22

Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—

Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 20

Tallow—

Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool.. 18

Tanks—

Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham Cover

Tar and Rosin Distillers—

Brotherton & Co., Leeds .. .. ..
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—

Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Tea Merchants—

Cooper & Co., Liverpool .. .. ..
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Teak Timber—

Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. .. 13

Telegraph Engineers—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 26
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. .. ..

Telephones—

Telegraph Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. ..

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture— PAGE

Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Textile Engineers & Machinists—

Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury..

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—

Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury. Ld.; Bury..

Textile Manufacturers—

Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ..
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 20
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ..
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester 14

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ..

Timber Merchants—

Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E C. .. 13
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs. .. .. ..

Timber Merchants & Imprtrs.—

Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs. .. .. ..

Tin Boxes & Canisters—

Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath.. .. ..

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.

Tool Manufacturers—

Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester 2
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

Towels—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Traction Engines— PAGE

Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ..

Tube Mill Machinery—

Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Tubes and Fittings—

Dugard Bros., Birmingham 9
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury 9
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham 20

Turbines—

Greenwood & Batley, Limited, Albion Works, Leeds .. ..

Tweeds—

Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 20
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C... .. ..

Typewriter—

Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. 20

Tyre Manufacturers—

Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

Valves for Compressed Gases—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Varnish Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C. .. ..
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E.
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. .. ..
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black) .. ..
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E... 25

Vegetable Colours—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Limited, The, London, N.E. 9
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Ventilators—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton 13

Vinegar Makers—
Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. .. ..
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Wagon Cover Manufacturers—
Piggott, Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer Street, Birmingham

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate Street Works, Birmingham .. ..

Watch and Clock Mfctrs.—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London .. 30

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W... 4

Waterproof Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E... .. 2

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd. The, Reading .. .. .. Cover

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Limited, Liverpool 3

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..
Whiteley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

PAGE

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Limited, Warrington .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Window Blinds—
Janes & Son, 101, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

Window Blind Manufacturers—
Janes & Son, 101, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

Wine and Spirit Merchants—
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. .. ..
Cooper & Co., Church Street, Liverpool (Peachona) .. ..
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Limited, Glasgow .. ..
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington Street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) .. ..
Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D C L" Whisky and Gin) .. ..
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..
Morgan & Co., Hamburg 18

Wire Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. ..
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) 9
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 1
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham .. ..
Ramsden, Camm & Co., Ltd., Brighouse, Yorks .. ..
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield

Wire Mill Machinery Makers—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham Cover

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. ..
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. ..

Wire Ropeways—
White, R., & Sons, Widnes .. ..

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Limited, Norwich 16
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birm'gham

PAGE

Wood Block Flooring—
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MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

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RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

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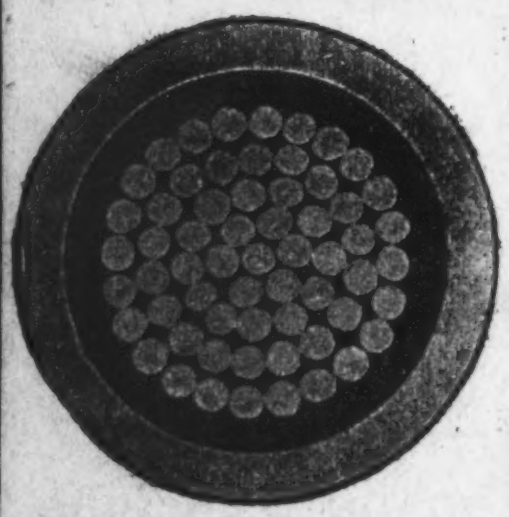

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